Daily Report

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Conference Addresses Caribbean-European Issues

FL2911202590 Bridgetown CANA in English 1343 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Nov. 29, CANA—More than 200 delegates from the Caribbean and Europe gathered in Kingston Thursday for the third annual conference on Europe and Caribbean issues. The conference sponsored by the West India Committee will address key issues affecting the Caribbean's future relations with Europe.

Specifically, delegates will examine the question of whether the region is prepared for 1992 and whether government and the private sector have taken all the necessary steps to position the region to take best advantage of the single market. The conference will also consider a range of specific issues in working sessions on manufacturing, investment, agriculture, tourism, and the service sector.

Executive director of the West India Committee, David Jessop, also noted that the conference will enable young people in the private sector, government, and academic instititions to set out their views on the ways in which the region should develop new policies that take account of the dramatic changes of the last 12 months and the emergence of new trading blocs.

Andean Pact La Paz Presidential Summit Arrivals

Peruvian President Fujimori

PY2911162090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1508 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] La Paz, 29 Nov (EFE)—Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori arrived today in La Paz to participate in the two-day presidential summit that will be attended by the presidents of the five Andean Pact nations. Fujimori's plane landed at El Alto International Airport, outside La Paz, at 1050 (1450 GMT), and he was met by his Bolivian colleague, Jaime Paz Zamora.

This is the Peruvian president's first trip abroad since he assumed his post in July 1990.

This afternoon Fujimori will meet with Paz Zamora, Colombian President Cesar Gaviria, Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja, and Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez during the course of the fourth Andean Pact presidential conference.

Venezuelan President Perez

PY2911163690 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1528 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] La Paz, 29 Nov (EFE) Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez arrived today in La Paz to participate in the two-day presidential summit that will be attended by the presidents of the five Andean Pact nations. Perez' plane landed at El Alto International Airport, outside La Paz, at 1113 (1513 GMT), and he was met by his Bolivian colleague, Jaime Paz Zamora.

This afternoon the Venezuelan chief of state will meet with Paz Zamora, Colombian President Cesar Gaviria, Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja, and Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori during the course of the fourth Andean Pact presidential conference.

Perez was the last of chief of state to arrive for the talks. Borja arrived on 27 November, Gaviria arrived on 28 November, and Fujimori arrived this morning.

COB Addresses 'Open Letter' to Presidents

PY3011013090 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1100 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Open letter addressed to the presidents and peoples of the Andean region by the executive board of the Bolivian Labor Federation, COB, in La Paz; date not given]

[Text] Distinguished Presidents:

The socioeconomic crisis has reached untenable levels. The latest domestic events have shown the nation that the so-called neoliberal economy, which has been in force for five years, is a process plagued by contradictions for the people, contradictions which have become tragically evident. For example:

The Conflict of Jurisdiction

We believe that each branch must be independent because it gives civilian society a chance to prevent abuses of power. We Bolivians must not allow anyone to build a dictatorial regime in the name of democracy. There can be no democracy without a system of checks and balances.

Following our long-standing tradition, we are not urging anyone to defend the Supreme Court justices but rather the principle of independence among the branches of government. If we Bolivians lose this battle we will have lost our chance for unbiased electoral courts and democracy. Thus, we would not have truly democratic relations.

Definite No to Militarization

Presidents of the Andean region, who are honoring us with your visit, coca has been and will continue to be defended as a natural resource and a natural expression of the Andean people's culture. We Bolivians have fought for five years to promote alternative development and have rejected the U.S. policy aimed at forcibly eradicating coca plantations through interdiction and militarization under a strategy of low-intensity war, which our people are already enduring but do not accept.

Distinguished Presidents, in the name of the Andean culture we urge you to reject the U.S. policy of using military force to eradicate coca plantations. As a sovereign solution, we propose that the Andean countries form a bloc to defend a true, sovereign alternative development plan because coca is not just a cultural problem but a political and socioeconomic one as well.

Sharp Increase in the Prices of Staples

The neoliberal economy has stripped us of our rights to stable jobs, fair salaries, and access to education and health services. With its current free enterprise model, Bolivia is now, more than ever before, one of the poorest countries on the continent. The oligarchic plan promoting reactivation through privatization has led us into greater poverty. Most Bolivians are now facing gloomy prospects. The steady daily and hourly increases in the prices of staples will slowly starve us to death. Bolivia has the highest infant mortality rate on the continent.

The Price of [words indistinct]

The monopolization of power, militarization, and the neoliberal economy have left Bolivians without an opportunity for representative political expression, inevitably forcing some sectors to resort to undemocratic means of protest and political actions. This is the case with our fellow Bolivians of the ELN [Army of National Liberation] and the CNPZ [Nestor Paz Zamora Committee], which have resorted to armed actions to protest the obvious U.S. management of the Bolivian economy and policies.

Other Forms of Protest

The executive branch has failed to comply with decrees and agreements signed with Amazonian ethnic groups, the Single Trade Union Confederation of Bolivian Peasant Workers, and COB-affiliated federations, prompting our fellow workers to resort to measures such as the mass hunger strike called by hundreds of peasants who have borrowed from private banks.

Within the same context, our (?Chilean) brothers have taken direct actions to demand compliance with decrees recognizing their territorial rights and dignity [passage indistinct] and corruption in the mining sector. Private banks are foreclosing on 57,000 poor peasant borrowers. Our peasant brothers were first hit by drought and then by a heavy nationwide frost; today they are victims of ruthless government action.

Presidents of Andean countries, these facts show that the government depiction of a Bolivia with social peace and stability is in sharp contradiction with the real Bolivia, where the people endure injustice and hunger. Violations of human rights, the practice of state terrorism, violations of constitutional rights, the presence of foreign—U.S., Spanish, and Korean—organizations in the Interior Ministry, and the high unemployment rate, which affects more than 25 percent of the work force, are undeniable facts in our country.

These facts have caused the COB to permanently mobilize the Bolivian people and to request that you convey the permanent solidarity of our sister nations of the Andean region.

Andean Group Trade Increased by 30 Percent

PY2911171590 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0022 GMT 28 Nov 90

[Summary] Lima, 27 Nov (EFE) The Cartagena Accord Board reported in Lima today that, compared to January-October of last year, the Andean Pact countries increased their trade by 30 percent between January and October 1990. According to the source, trade among Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Venezuela totaled about $950 million between January-October of this year. Venezuelan exports to Colombia increased from $191 million in 1989 to $304 million in the January-October 1990 period. Colombian exports to Peru increased from $35 to $82 million. Bolivian exports to Peru increased from $18 million to $59 million.

Venezuela, Colombia Discuss Support for Peru

PY2911152290 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Nov 90

[Text] Venezuelan Foreign Minister Reinaldo Figueredo and Colombian Foreign Minister Luis Fernando Jaramillo have met with the president of the Republic, Alberto Fujimori, at Government Palace. They discussed the upcoming summit of Andean presidents in La Paz, Bolivia.

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Reinaldo Figueredo and Colombian Foreign Minister Luis Fernando Jaramillo arrived in our capital from Colombia on a private airplane. A delegation, headed by Peruvian Foreign Minister Luis Marchand Stens, met the illustrious visitors on the apron of the Jorge Chaves International Airport.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Mr. Foreign Minister, what kind of support does your country foresee?

[Jaramillo] I have come with Foreign Minister Figueredo precisely to discuss with the Peruvian Government the possibility of supporting it within the framework of the Rio Group and the Andean Pact. Following presidential directives, this possibility was initially discussed during President Gaviria's inauguration and during a meeting of the presidents who attended his inauguration; it was subsequently discussed during a presidential summit in Caracas.

We have come to construct the various forms of support we will give Peru....

[Reporter, interrupting] Exactly how will Colombia help Peru?

[Jaramillo] Well now, we will discuss Peru's various needs and the forms by which Colombia can support it. It could be, for example, in the area of food, where Colombia, at this moment, is capable of giving important support to Peru. We will probe all the forms by which we can help Peru in this crisis.

[Reporter] Concerning your own country, what kind of help is foreseen for our country?

[Figueredo] The issue that Foreign Minister Jaramillo just discussed was reviewed during the latest meeting between President Gaviria and President Perez in the city of San Cristobal.

During President Gaviria's inauguration we, the Andean Pact, pledged to review the support we had to give Peru under the very complex circumstances the Peruvian Government and people are experiencing and the great effort President Fujimori is making.

On that occasion, the two presidents [Gaviria and Perez] agreed that we, the foreign ministers, should come make a firsthand assessment of both the food and financial (?areas) in such a way that during the summit in Bolivia 29-30 November, we will be able to determine the extent of this cooperation.

[Marchand] Venezuelan Foreign Minister Reinaldo Figueredo and Colombian Foreign Minister Luis Fernando Jaramillo have come to Lima to talk with the president of the Republic, Engineer Alberto Fujimori, in order to learn directly from him, from the president, what is the most pressing financial assistance or other type of assistance, such as in the area of food, that Peru requires. They have offered to be the coordinators for the

Andean Pacts's and the Rio Group's economic assistance to Peru, which was agreed upon in Bogota and in Caracas. [end recording]

Afterwards, the illustrious visitors, along with Foreign Minister Luis Marchand, held a 40-minute meeting with President Alberto Fujimori at the Government Palace; they dealt with issues related to the summit of Andean presidents scheduled for 29-30 November in La Paz, Bolivia. During the meeting, the two countries' foreign ministers conveyed the greetings of their respective governments to the head of state.

Cuba

Malmierca Opposes Text of UN Iraq Resolution

FL2911141590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca confirmed to his American counterpart, James Baker, Cuba's opposition to the current text of a resolution that would lead to a war in the Persian Gulf of unforeseeable consequences for the world. At the end of a meeting between the two foreign ministers, Malmierca said that our country is continuing consultations for a resolution that will ensure Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait and Kuwait's sovereignty through a political, peaceful solution.

Malmierca said: The text before us is not acceptable to Cuba, but we trust that consultations can modify it so that it will be acceptable and will contribute to a political solution. Malmierca added that in previous decisions, the Security Council, Cuba, and the United States have agreed on some decisions. We have voted the same as the United States, and now we are in the midst of consultations for resolution that will have the greatest support possible.

Addresses UN Security Council

FL30111434 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0120 GMT 30 Nov 90

["Text" of Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca's speech to the UN Security Council in New York on 29 November; read by announcers because "video received with simultaneous English translation"—live or recorded]

[Text] Mr. Chairman, I would first like to greet you on the occasion of assuming the chairmanship of this important UN Security Council meeting. We hope that, under your chairmanship, the council will work efficiently to spare the world the scourge of war. We also want to greet the foreign ministers of the Security Council member states who have traveled to New York. Their presence is evidence that it is necessary to renew our efforts to hopefully achieve a just solution.

We have been told that this ministerial meeting and the resolution that would be proposed during the meeting, are intended to increase the chances of achieving a peaceful solution to this crisis. Hence, we gladly accepted the invitation to participate in the meeting. In recent weeks the Cuban representative to this council, and the representatives of Malaysia and Yemen, have taken part in Colombia's initiative to achieve not only a draft resolution for a peaceful solution to the conflict, but to lay the very groundwork for achieving this solution.

You are aware of the numerous consultations that these four countries have carried out within and outside the Security Council in a hopeful and tenacious search for the necessary solution. We will continue along this road. Simultaneously, our has issued appeals to the president of Iraq, all Arab states, other countries, the president of the Nonaligned Movement, and this organization, government since the beginning of the conflict urging such a prompt solution. Two weeks ago, a vice president of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba was sent as a special representative to Iraq with a message to President S ddam Husayn. The message had the same purpose—to help achieve a political solution to the conflict.

Prior to this, our country quietly took many steps so that Iraq would rectify positions and make them more flexible. We have opted for peace, not war, at all times, since the beginning of the crisis. We are convinced that, more than once, this council has been misled by hasty decisions that do not facilitate the achievement of peace. The invasion and annexation of Kuwait by Iraq is condemnable and unacceptable. It is also, for the nonaligned and Third World countries, a deplorable and harmful action, because it violates the unity and solidarity that we need so much to face the challenge of overcoming underdevelopment and earning a dignified place for two- thirds of the world's population—which needs so much the resources that the arms buildup and fratricidal wars have squandered.

The use of innocent persons as hostages is also condemnable. We have also condemned this strongly at this council. It is a fact that the Security Council, by approving a resolution calling for a total blockade, which did not exclude food and medicine, turned millions of no-less innocent old people, women, and children into hostages of hunger and death. Iraqi children and sick people have died due to the lack of medicine in hospitals. The presence of more than 200 Cuban doctors and nurses, who have been gratuitously providing their services in the country for more than 12 years, allows us to give testimony of this reality. These and other measures do not contribute toward solving the ensuing situation; instead, they encourage more stubbornness and inflexibility.

Our clear principled position regarding each of the proposed resolutions does not leave any doubt. We have supported those we consider just and unquestionable. We have abstained or have voted against those which, in our judgment, have blocked a peaceful solution or would lead inexorably to war. We have also expressed here our concern about the large and increasing concentration of military forces of the United States and its allies in the gulf region and the danger of the outbreak of war, which, even limited to a conventional conflagration, would result in enormous destruction to the countries of the region, beginning with Kuwait, Iraq, and its neighbors, plus the losses to the attacking forces.

The destruction of oil installations and resources concentrated there would affect, with the ensuing scarcity of crude oil and the spiraling price increase, the industrialized countries that consume it, but above all, the Third World countries that do not produce oil, which, with the current strangling foreign debt and the brutally unequal system of trade, would have to add astronomical figures to the already high price of fuel.

Mr. President, from this tribunal we have noted the contrast in the council's approach to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, and the recent invasion of Panama by the United States, and the situation in Palestine and the Arab territories occupied 23 years ago—to mention just two examples. We have listened to a comment at this meeting that these are things that belong to the past, to the former cold war era, that we are in a new era in which all will respect the UN Charter and that the Iraqi action is aimed against this new world order, which is born of the best of the post-war spirit.

The reality is that it was not possible for this organization to send a representative of the secretary general to the occupied territory or offer the most minimal guarantees to Palestinian youths and adolescents who are being assassinated daily in the land they were cruelly deprived of. Independently of the moral, legal, and historic basis, Cuba has not attempted, nor considers it realistic, to establish a linkage between the Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait and an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

Is it not scandalously incongruous to invoke for some the rules that we ignore for others? Has the very same council not been taking part in consultations these past few days on another minimum, moderate, and humanitarian draft resolution on Palestine drafted by Colombia, Malaysia, Yemen, and Cuba? Nonetheless, the president of the council has not heeded the request to convene this organization and has disregarded the established rules and procedures. Is it that the suffering Palestinian people do not deserve today, in the era after the cold war, equal consideration as other peoples; as has been denied the Lebanese, against who a strategic ally of the United States has unleashed all the terror and brutality of the sophisticated power? Why the very same people who claim to be moved by other actions that violate international rules and laws are not affected by this?.

If we are truly at the start of a new era; if our intentions are that international law should, and not strategic or geopolitical interests, should prevail; if we are interested in justice and not hegemony or control of the largest oil resources of the planet; this is the time to work together for a new world order according to the principles of the UN Charter, which we have freely accepted so that there is real equality and justice for all. This order would be all the better if the United Nations were democratized and we shed rules and practices of privilege adopted almost half a century ago, which do not correspond to the world of today and which deny the prerogatives and total powers of the immense majority of the states that make up the international community.

We understand that the diverse problems faced by contemporary humanity cannot be resolved simultaneously. However, when there exists a sincere willingness, adequate solutions can be achieved. Dialogue and negotiation have proven to be the best instruments available to the United Nations and the states that comprise it to resolve conflicts. Namibia is a stimulating example of how many difficulties can be overcome by the parties in conflict at a negotiating table. The case of Korea, on the other hand, exemplifies how the use of force under the banner of the United Nations has failed—after years of war, hundreds of thousands of victims, and massive material destruction—in an armistice that today still keeps that country divided, just as before the conflict broke out, and tens of thousands of soldiers and foreign military bases remain in the southern part of that territory.

Mr. President, Cuba believes it would not be advisable to adopt a resolution that constitutes a virtual declaration of war, a fixed term ultimatum to initiate hostilities, which is equivalent to unrestricted authorization for the United States and its allies to employ their enormous and sophisticated military potential.

If this is how the crisis will be resolved, it cannot be denied that the procedure could at least be called uncivilized. It would constitute an enormous frustration for the international community, and provide evidence of the UN's inability of the United Nations and the principal statesmen of the world of today to find political and peaceful solutions to problems. The text also violates the UN Charter by authorizing some states to use military force, ignoring completely the procedures established by the charter. We would have been supportive of a firm resolution, with the objective of ensuring the respect and compliance of the will of the international community, and be at the same time generous and magnanimous by including rectification of the decision to prevent the delivery of food and medicine for the women, children, and elderly people of Iraq.

This would considerably heighten the UN's moral authority to demand, in an even stronger manner, that Iraq withdraw its troops from Kuwait, restore that state's sovereign rights, and immediately release all of the hostages.

Instead, we have been asked to support a fixed-term war. An attempt is being made to confront the Iraqi Government's inflexibility and stubbornness with the Security Council's inflexibility, stubbornness, and extreme measures. The UN's duty is to respond wisely to any demonstration of disobedience and extremism, instead of displaying fanatical reverence for the use of force. It has been proven that forceful measures will not bring us any closer to a solution; on the contrary, they have made Iraq's positions increasingly rigid. The steps that have been taken in the political, trade, and financial areas are more than sufficient. At present, Iraq cannot receive products by air, sea, or land that, in addition to food and medicine, are essential to a nation's life.

It is obvious that a state cannot, for a protracted period, withstand the political and economic isolation that Iraq is currently facing, so there is no need to starve women, the aged, and children, or stage a bloody and destructive war that would bring about bloodshed and destruction.

An incredible fact of history is that with this resolution, for more than six weeks the world will be like the people

in a gigantic stadium waiting for war to break out. As in the title of a famous novel by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, the resolution that has been proposed could be described as a chronicle of an announced war. This, and no other interpretation, can be applied to the text that has been presented to us.

It should be obvious to everyone that to end this day with the approval of an undesirable conflict, as this Security Council has announced, would be the worst expression of the mistaken role that the future can assign to the United Nations. Cuba is not willing to assume this historic responsibility. Thank you very much.

CDR Urged To Assume Police Functions

FL2911154790 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1506 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] What we are seeking is to create a climate of revolutionary fervor among CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution] members so that they immediately take to the streets when a crime occurs. We cannot wait for the police to arrive. This statement was made by Maria Luisa Suarez Campos, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] and CDR secretary for ideological affairs, on concluding a working visit to Ciego de Avila province.

The CDR leader called for the creation of formulas for establishing a much more active and dynamic mass movement so that any conflict that arises can be unanimously resolved.

It was learned that among the CDR's tasks in the present phase is for Ciego de Avila to surpass 100,000 blood donations before the end of the year as a salute to the next anniversary of the revolution.

Santiago Satellite Communications Station Opens

FL3011144290 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] The country's third ground station for international communications has opened in Santiago de Cuba. It is the result of cooperation between Italy's Italcable and Cuba's Intertel communications companies. This portable-type facility has computerized equipment and will ensure direct telephone communications for the first time between Santiago de Cuba and Rome, Italy, and the other countries in the world. It will provide extensive benefits, mostly for tourism.

Esteban Lazo, a Politburo member and first party secretary in the province, Minister of Communications Manuel Castillo Rabasa, and representatives from the two countries' companies attended the opening ceremony. The Cayo Largo ground station and one in Holguin are also to be opened in a few days. The first two installed in Cuba are in operation in Varadero and Havana.

* Mexico Considers Debt-for-Equity Swap

[Editorial Report] According to a NOTIMEX report on page 27 of the 13 November 1990 issue of the Mexico City Spanish-language newspaper LA JORNADA, the idea of swapping Cuban debt for Mexican equity investment is being considered "at a high level" within the Mexican Government.

The annual $207.5 million line of credit which Mexico extends to Cuba has been frozen since the beginning of this year because Cuba has failed to make payments, according to Mexican diplomatic sources in Havana.

Carlos Sanchez, the Mexican Embassy's commercial attache in Havana, told NOTIMEX that an exchange of debt for assets or investment could be applied in mixed enterprises which the Cuban Government recently opened to foreign investment.

He said that the National Foreign Trade Bank of Mexico (Bancomext) will prepare a proposal for the Mexican Ministry of Finance and Public Credit to reactivate Cuba's line of credit, "under the same mechanisms Mexico used to refinance its foreign debt."

Sanchez said the objective of the proposal is to find "a comprehensive solution" to the trade imbalance between the two countries which in 1989 favored Mexico by a proportion of ten to one.

In 1989 Mexican exports to Cuba rose to more than $100 million and imports rose to $15 million according to Bancomext.

Sanchez emphasized that a debt-for-equity swap—which Mexico used to restructure its own debt—had also been applied "successfully" in Central American countries which had serious trade imbalances with Mexico.

He said there are 12 Mexican businessmen interested in investing in Cuba especially in the areas of tourism, biotechnology, vaccines and the food industry.

He noted that the Cuban Government is showing interest in expanding its trade relations and in receiving Mexican investment because it now has to reorient its international commercial relations as a result of the changes in Eastern Europe.

Previously, Cuba sent about 90 percent of its exports to the former Eastern Bloc countries and imported a similar quantity of products from them.

Dominican Republic

Pena Gomez Blames Balaguer for Inflation, Debt

FL2911162090 Santo Domingo Cadena de Noticias in Spanish 0930 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Dr. Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, the leader of the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD], has accused President Balaguer of being the one responsible for the

crisis that is shaking the country at all levels. The top leader of the PRD likewise defended his actions as the mayor of the National District. Dr. Pena Gomez said that Dr. Balaguer should never have entered negotiations with the IMF.

[Begin recording] [Pena] Whether Balaguer signs [an agreement] or not is his responsibility, and the blame for signing or not signing is his. You cannot attribute to me blame that belongs to the government. I have absolutely nothing to (?do with) whether Balaguer goes to the IMF or not. If he does not go to the IMF, that is his responsibility.

[Unidentified speaker] Yes, politically.

[Pena] If he goes to the IMF, that is his responsibility. And the runaway inflation that exists in this country is Joaquin Balaguer's responsibility, not Jose Francisco Pena Gomez's. I spent four years in city government and when I left I did not owe a single cent to any international institution, not even to the Reserve Bank. So that is a....

[Unidentified speaker, interrupting] But the government went into debt.

[Pena] Well, the government is one thing and Pena Gomez is another, because when I was the mayor of Santo Domingo I was on leave as secretary general of the party, and I worked solely and exclusively at administering the government of the National District. [end recording]

Haiti

CEP Discusses Election Logistics, Finances

FL2911173590 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 28 Nov 90

[Excerpts] Eighteen days before the elections, the Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] expresses confidence, and explains that measures are being taken to transport basic electoral apparatus to all regions of the country. The Council is considering renting helicopters for the haulage of the ballots and other necessary materials for the forthcoming elections.

At the request of the CEP president, four Jamaican military experts were sent to Port-au-Prince yesterday by the defense minister of Jamaica to consult with the CEP and the chiefs in command of the Haitian Aviation Corps, Colonel Prosper and Major Dumas, on the possibility of renting a helicopter for election day. The four Jamaicans returned yesterday afternoon to Jamaica.

The executive director of the CEP assured our reporter that no changes in electoral activities are planned.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Words such as uncertainty, panic, doubt are not part of the CEP vocabulary less than three weeks before the elections. In Villa D'Accueil, where the electoral institution is located, they are working double time at every level so that the first balloting can take place smoothly. The Council's operational calendar has been meticulously adhered to up until now, says Marc-Antoine Noel, executive director of the CEP.

Despite the confidence expressed by those in charge, the CEP is facing financial problems this week. Some sponsors, among them the government, have yet to fulfill their commitment to the Council. According to Noel, of the important expenses the CEP is facing, most of them will be for the actual voting operations. Based on the CEP's computation, more than 70,000 people need to be hired for 15, 16, 17 December, for preparation of the Voting and Registration Bureaus [BIV's], the voting, and the counting, all of which will cost more than $2 million. The CEP firmly hopes that the funds will be released on time by the institutions in charge of financially supporting the elections.

The minister of the Justice Department, Pierre C. Labissiere, faithfully promises that the state will keep the CEP afloat, as planned. Following is a brief synopsis of the CEP's financial situation.

[Noel] By the end of this month, meaning within three days, we will need to have covered the regular monthly expenses, and such has not been done yet; we have commitments for the printing of the voting cards. This has not been paid, and has increased, because we requested the reprinting of cards for a department and a number of communes. [passage omitted] We must absolutely prepare for the dispersion of the materials. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Everything is still not all right for the Council in the matter of logistics since not all the necessary materials are available for the running of the elections. The CEP is soliciting the support of all the ministries in the transport of materials, in order to reduce some expenses. Regarding the BIV supervision, the CEP has already bought 80 motorcycles with funds from the German government; Venezuela donated 48 motorcycles to the CEP, but 32 are still missing. The CEP will have at its disposal four helicopters in order to carry voting materials to remote areas of the country. One helicopter will be provided by the Caribbean Community [Caricom], through the Jamaican Government. [passage omitted] In contrast to the 1987 elections, the Haitian Army will collaborate with the CEP on flight plans for those helicopters. According to Marc-Antoine Noel, elections will be held, except in the case of a natural disaster. [passage omitted]

Questioned on Manigat's case, which will be heard Friday in the Supreme Court of Appeal, the CEP's representative stated that such a case had not even been discussed inside the Council. Marc-Antoine Noel stresses that the CEP's concern is to successfully conduct the elections, pushing the electoral machine forward to the first stop, 16 December.

Correction to Aristide Receives Warm Welcome

FL2911152090

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Aristide Welcomed in Cap-Haitien," published in the 29 November Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 8: Column two, paragraph two, line five make read:...Some young people brandished placards asking the American President and Government to respect the results of the elections. Placards read, Bush, Haiti is not the Dominican Republic, an allusion to the latest presidential elections in the Dominican Republic, which are being contested on the basis of fraud. [passage omitted] (supplying omitted passage)

El Salvador

Government Supports 'All' UN Decisions on Iraq

PA3011015990 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0006 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] San Salvador, 29 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Salvadoran Government supports "all decisions" adopted by the United Nations so that Iraq will leave Kuwait. It condemns the invasion of Kuwait that took place on 2 August, an official source reported today.

A government spokesman told ACAN-EFE tonight that El Salvador "opposed the invasion" in two documents submitted to the international organization following the occupation of Kuwait.

The UN Security Council approved today the use of force against Iraq; it gave the government of Saddam Husayn until 15 January to order his troops out of Kuwaiti territory.

Cristiani: 'Even Darker Days' Await FMLN

PA2911224490 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1840 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] President Alfredo Cristiani today warned that there will be an increasingly tense atmosphere at the forthcoming meeting between the government and the guerrillas, and he reaffirmed that the government is prepared to end the war. The president also said that the guerrillas' use of missiles could prolong the war, and that the use of these new types of weapons does not harm or endanger the stability of the Armed Forces or the government. Far from it, it only sets further back the possibility of reaching agreements, Cristiani said. He explained that his government has not evaluated the situation with Dr. Alvaro de Soto because the UN delegate is aware of the guerrillas' latest actions.

[Begin recording] [Cristiani] This must be clear. I have said publicly on various occasions that we are prepared for a cease-fire, which can be a concerted or a unilateral effort. I said this publicly at the United Nations, and I have said that I will maintain this position at all times. The Christmas season brings families together, it is a time when people come close to God, and it is a time for peace and tranquility. My attitude, however, is one of readiness at all times.

[Reporter] Mr. President, your government issued a communique following the downing of an airplane [words indistinct] with missiles, [words indistinct] an escalation of the war [words indistinct]. Does this mean, in other words, that your government is in danger, that there is no certainty that [words indistinct]?

[Cristiani] No. Definitely not. What it means, in a nutshell, is that obviously they are using a new weapon. If they are planning to use increasingly sophisticated weapons, far from seeking peace through the [peace] process, the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] is trying to escalate its violent actions. In short, the government and Armed Forces do not feel at all threatened.

Unfortunately, such actions will only lengthen and hinder the peace process and the achievement of its goal over the short term. Violence generates instability for all Salvadorans, and no one can be at peace with it; this is the government's position. Neither the government nor the Armed Forces feel in any way threatened by the FMLN's actions. [end recording]

In response to a question concerning his opinion of the guerrilla warning that dark days await the Armed Forces, Cristiani was emphatic when he said that even darker days await the FMLN. If that is what they want, that will be the answer they receive, the president hinted.

[Begin Cristiani recording] Let them come; the days that await the FMLN will be even darker, since that is their attitude. I believe that the FMLN is following a completely mistaken path. I have said on a number of occasions that the purpose of the peace process is to benefit Salvadoran society, not to achieve personal satisfaction for groups or individuals. This is the focus of the entire peace process and its achievements. [end recording]

To conclude, Cristiani said that the rebels' request that civilians be removed from the military garrisons is ridiculous. He added, however, that each Salvadoran is free to do as he pleases. Cristiani also said that the Christmas season is a good time to end the hostilities, adding that the Armed Forces have requested this even at the United Nations.

Pacas Accuses FMLN of Violating Human Rights

PA3011033090 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 29 Nov 90 p 3

[Text] Salvadoran Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Pacas accused the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) yesterday of violating human rights, which it pledged to respect before government delegates when the negotiating process began in Geneva, Switzerland.

Pacas Castro said that the FMLN, although it claims that its attacks are directed against the military, has launched attacks on cities which only have police stations, banks, insurance companies, cotton mills, and other facilities.

The Salvadoran foreign minister said that, although there is concern about the Armed Forces casualties, there is more concern about the civilian casualties caused by guerrilla attacks on zones that are not military targets.

He said that so far they have downed two military aircraft: an A-37 aircraft downed with a missile and a helicopter downed with rifle fire.

Pacas Castro, who is in Honduras to attend the meeting of Central American and Mexican foreign ministers, said

that Mexico has submitted a proposal that will permit a cease-fire between the two parties. On several occasions Mexico has been the site of peaceful meetings between the Salvadoran guerrillas and delegates of Alfredo Cristiani's government.

The Salvadoran foreign minister said that he may hold a bilateral meeting with his Mexican counterpart to discuss a possible meeting between the conflicting parties in his country. Other topics have to do with Central American problems and relations with Mexico.

Government Condemns FMLN's Terrorist Actions

PA3011044990 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 29 Nov 90 p 58

["Text" of communique issued by the Salvadoran Government; place and date not given]

[Text] "The government of the Republic of El Salvador reports and condemns the terrorist actions perpetrated hours ago by the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] against the civilian population of El Salvador.

"1. Yesterday evening the FMLN's terrorist groups attacked a Civil Defense post in Planes de Renderos, critically wounding two civilians who were nearby.

"2. Early this morning FMLN terrorist groups launched a criminal large-scale attack on "La Esperanza" Penal Center in Mariona, using rifles, 81-mm mortars, and rocket launchers. According to preliminary reports, two soldiers, one guard, and one inmate were killed and six guards, three soldiers, and at least 13 civilians were wounded. The attack on the Mariona jail caused damage inside the penitentiary and to private homes located nearby. It also endangered the lives of hundreds of inmates and civilians who live in the surrounding area.

"3. Today at 0700, the FMLN threw—without the slightest concern or consideration—an explosive device at soldiers who were posted near some poor homes on the highway to Los Chorros, between Santa Tecla and Colon. A 75-year-old woman and a six-year-old girl were killed, and a 14-year-old girl was critically wounded.

"4. Four hours later, more explosive devices were thrown at the Central Electoral Council's installations, causing no casualties. This proves the terrorists' plans to hinder the electoral process and strike against the democratic system that the Salvadoran people are trying to perfect with so many sacrifices.

"All these actions are part of the terrorist actions that the FMLN has launched against the Salvadoran people with the absurd intention of seizing power by force.

"These actions also clearly prove that the FMLN's warmongering hardliners have seized control of that terrorist organization to frustrate the possibility of reaching agreements within the peace process that is currently being carried out under the UN secretary general's auspices.

"Given the FMLN's terrorist offensive, which is mainly affecting the civilian population, the government informs the Salvadoran people that our Armed Forces will continue to fulfill its constitutional mission of protecting the people's lives and possessions, as well as protecting the democratic institutions of the Republic.

"The Salvadoran Government thanks the international community for its support and understanding and asks it to demand that the FMLN fulfill the agreement which was recently signed in Costa Rica—pledging to respect the Salvadoran people's human rights and avoid all kinds of actions or plans that endanger the lives, integrity, and liberty of the people."

Coprefa Claims 34 Rebels Killed Past Two Days

PA3011045190 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] The FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] sustained 34 dead and 58 wounded in fighting over the past 48 hours in Joya Ancha Hamlet of Usulutan Department. According to the Armed Forces Press Committee [Coprefa], in the most recent clash this morning the guerrillas suffered 24 dead and 40 wounded. In the same actions, according to the Coprefa report, the military forces sustained a total of three soldiers killed and 11 wounded. Combined forces of the 3d and 6th Infantry Brigades participated in the fighting.

FMLN Reports on Government's 'Murder' Plans

PA2911194890 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Communique issued by the General Command of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) on 27 November in El Salvador]

[Text] 1. The government and the Armed Forces, aware of their weakness, and facing national and international pressure to advance negotiations on the Armed Forces issue, have implemented a plan prepared some months ago to murder leaders of political parties, grass-roots organizations, religious personalities, and FMLN leaders both inside the country and abroad, with the intention of sabotaging the process for a political solution.

2. In view of the seriousness of the situation and to deter the plan, we have issued a note in that regard to the UN secretary general, the U.S. Congress and State Department, as well as Latin American and European governments.

3. This new terrorist plan is intolerable and unacceptable. We are doing everything possible in the political-diplomatic field to avert it. We give warning, however, that should any attack be carried out against any leaders

of political parties, grass-roots organizations, religious personalities, or FMLN leaders, we will respond in legitimate defense.

The plan is currently in the phase of creating justifications through psychological warfare propaganda, which precedes the phase of attacks. Within this context, President Cristiani and Colonel Ponce have made continuous statements to the effect that within the FMLN, there are serious contradictions between warmongering individuals and those who favor negotiations. The threats that have been launched against Dr. Ungo and Dr. Zamora through the Armed Forces radio, as well as through various radio and television networks, are advanced warnings of the murders ahead.

It is noteworthy to point out that Cristiani and Ponce have stated that our military actions will provoke violence from the hardline groups. They now claim that the downing by our forces of military aircraft represents attacks on political stability. The government is planning to make a repressive terrorist response to a military problem.

In the last 10 years, similar plans have been carried out in the same procedure. First, there is a phase to set the psychological atmosphere and later the plan is implemented. In 1979, prior to his assassination, there had been a strong media campaign against Monsignor Romero. It is noteworthy to point out that the bishop was assassinated a few days after Roberto d'Aubuisson made a public accusation.

Prior to the slaughter of the Fenastras [Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation] leaders, the government and the military launched a large propaganda campaign called "Do Not Let Yourself Be Caught" with the photographs of the union leader. In 1989, a media campaign against the Jesuit priests was launched.

The current plan being implemented is not the result of isolated actions or hardline groups that are out of control. They form part of the government policy. For example, in the case of the Jesuits, it is becoming more evident all the time that the assassins were following orders of a military unit and obeying the General Staff, which in turn was obeying the Presidency of the Republic, and all this was probably known by the U.S. advisers. It is evident that the investigations of the Jesuits' case are not making any progress. Many know why, but they do not have the courage to mention it.

To coordinate attacks in other countries, the Armed Forces have appointed military officers and civilians linked to the intelligence corps and death squads to the embassies in neighboring countries. In Guatemala City, there is Colonel Denis Moran; in Tegucigalpa, Colonel Mauricio Staben; in Managua, Colonel Heriberto Hernandez and Mr. (Jorge Velado); and in San Jose, Colonel Mauricio Guzman Aguilar.

[Signed] FMLN General Command in El Salvador

[Dated] 27 November 1990

FMLN Communique on Downing of Planes

PA2911193890 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Communique issued by the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) in El Salvador on 28 November—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. On Thursday, 22 November, members of the Zacamil anti-aircraft artillery group of the 3d Military Region of the National Army for Democracy downed a Cessna-O2 reconnaissance plane. On Friday, 23 November, they downed an A-37 fighter bomber, and on Monday, 26 November, a UH-1M helicopter gunship. Our infantry troops came close to capturing the two helicopter pilots, who were uninjured and managed to flee from the crash site despite being chased by our forces, who completely destroyed the helicopter on the ground.

2. Given these military actions, the government and the High Command of the Armed Forces have cowardly denounced the downing of Air Force aircraft as an escalation of the war and a lack of willingness to attain peace on our part. This action, on their part, jeopardizes the country's political stability and is a clear threat to repress and murder the people if their aircraft continue to be shot down. It seems that we are downing doves of peace, and not the war planes hated by all the people.

3. The government is saying that the downing of its killer planes shows that we are using all our means to seize power. We are using our military resources to speed up the negotiations, while the Cristiani government, however, is trying by all possible means to avert serious negotiations by responding to military problems with terrorism.

We urge Cristiani, commander in chief of the antidemocratic Armed Forces, to deal with military problems as military problems, and not to respond to them with terrorism, by murdering opposition leaders for the blows sustained by his Air Force. The story of the Jesuit priests must not be repeated.

During the last 10 years of war, and even before, the Air Force has been an instrument of terror in the cities and the countryside. In these 10 years, the tactics used by the Air Force, which has received privileged treatment from the government, to counteract our efforts neutralizing it were to escalate the violence with new equipment. Five years ago our forces patiently began to prepare for fighting with all sorts of weapons, regular and conventional alike, to defeat the Air Force. We have now begun to neutralize the Air Force and their planes and pilots, who are frequently dying in action.

Now, regardless of whatever tactics they adopt, we are ready to fight inside their bases, on the ground, in the air, with combat support, through ambushes on their transit

routes, and at low or high altitude. We will not back away from this terrorist weapon of the antidemocratic Armed Forces, which has acted with impunity. If they do not want their planes to be downed or their pilots to die, they should stop flying, bombing, killing, and destroying.

Our forces, despite being outnumbered, have been fighting for 10 years under disadvantageous technical and air positions, and we have never been afraid. The antidemocratic Armed Forces have 50,000 troops, tanks, artillery, and large logistical equipment. Today, when they are beginning to lose their Air Force, they want to respond with terrorism, which is a cowardly position and an unacceptable act of provocation.

[Signed] FMLN

FMLN's Southeastern Front on Recent Actions

PA2911200190 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 29 Nov 90

["Military report" issued by the Joint Command of the Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front in El Salvador; date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] The National Army for Democracy soldiers clashed with two Atonal Battalion companies in Los Cantones, El Nanzal, Guanacastal, and Los Jobos neighborhoods in the Santa Elena jurisdiciton, Usulutan Department, on 27 November from 1100 until 1530, when the enemy's soldiers fled in confusion toward [word indistinct] in an attempt to reach Usulutan. We inflicted four casualties on the enemy.

Other National Army for Democracy soldiers initiated an annihilation action against a combined enemy battalion at 1530 on 27 November. The combined battalion was formed by 3d Infantry Brigade troops who had been sent to the 6th Brigade along with Atonal Battalion soldiers. The combined batallion's objective was supposedly to retake the Santa Elena jurisdiction, which has been under our control since our campaign started. The clashes took place in the following northern Santa Elena neighborhoods: Joya Ancha Arriba, Joya Ancha Abajo, Las Cruces, and Las Zelayas. The fighting lasted until 2300, and we managed to divide two Leon Battalion companies and destroy part of them.

We report to our people that our annihilation action had the following results:

We inflicted 26 casualties: Six soldiers were killed, 14 were wounded, and six were taken as war prisoners. The names of the latter are: [Word indistinct] Javier Aviles Velasco, Julio Cesar Corea, Jose Izael Gomez Romero, Jose Isiderio Ponce Orellana, Ismael Ardita Rodriguez, and Romulo Hernandez Perez, all of whom are soldiers.

We also managed to recover the following war materiel: eight M-16 rifles, one M-60 machine gun, eight M-69 grenades, one M-66 rocket launcher, one [word indistinct] rocket launcher, two 60-mm mortar rounds, ten backpacks, nine equipment sets, and one M-18 mine. We also report that the enemy units were reinforced by two [figure indistinct]-mm mortars during these clashes. The mortars fired more than 100 projectiles at the entire northern and northeastern areas of the Santa Elena jurisdiction, which are densely populated. The Air Force actions and the indiscriminate firing of mortars forced people in these areas to abandon their homes.

To conquer a true democracy for El Salvador.

[Signed] Francisco Sanchez Southeastern Front Joint Command

FMLN Urges Cristiani To Negotiate 'Seriously'

PA2911025890 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0151 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Mexico City, 28 Nov (NOTIMEX)—As long as the Salvadoran Government pursues its policy of aggression, the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) will respond in self-defense to the Armed Forces' provocations.

In a communique issued here today, the FMLN General Command announced that if the government of Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani wants to avert a "large-scale" offensive, it must negotiate seriously and dissolve the Armed Forces.

The FMLN added that the Armed forces must refrain from bombing and invading the territories and municipalities under its control, from exerting pressure in the strife-torn areas, and it must end repression in the cities.

The FMLN General Command stated in the text that before the civil war broke out, the Armed Forces persecuted and massacred the population, and committed crimes such as that against Msgr. Oscar Arnulfo Romero, the leaders of the Revolutionary Democratic Front (FDR), and the U.S. nuns." [no opening quotation marks as received]

The FMLN noted that as part of that campaign, the government has described labor, popular, and democratic organizations in the disputed areas as "fronts" to justify repressing them.

The government, the FMLN communique said, "is mistaken if it thinks it is going to put a stop to us with propaganda...as long as it continues its military operations and repression against the popular sectors, it will get a response."

FMLN Front Demands Armed Forces Withdrawal

PA2911215090 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1400 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] The Joint Command of the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] Modesto Ramirez Central Front issued a communique today urging political parties, social groups, and other groups in the country to demand that President Alfredo Cristiani and

the Army High Command withdraw all military forces from education, recreation, study, and work areas so that citizens can carry out their various activities in peace.

The points outlined in the communique state that the Army and the government must remove military installations from densely populated areas and transfer them to the outskirts of the cities—instead of using residential areas, neighborhoods, and houses as shields to protect military installations.

The communique issued this morning by the FMLN also demands a halt to the Armed Forces' impunity and the physical, psychological, and moral abuse that they perpetrate against the civilian population every day.

The communique adds: As for ourselves, we once more reassert our decision to fight with all our strength against all the factors that prevent the achievement of democracy and justice in our country. We will not rest until the militarization of our country, the Army's impunity, and the military dictatorship's criminal structure have been erased from our homeland.

Car Bomb Explodes Near President's Palace

PA2911132490 Paris AFP in Spanish 0451 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] San Salvador, 29 Nov (AFP)—A car bomb blew up last night 200 meters away from the Presidential Palace, but no victims were reported, official sources in San Salvador have confirmed. The attack took place amid a tight security operation after President Alfredo Cristiani had left the building.

The police blamed the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] for the attack, which caused minor damage to a private residence and totally destroyed the vehicle that had been used for the car bomb. Three hours after the explosion, however, the urban guerrilla cells had still not claimed responsibility for the attack.

The rebels also blew up three high voltage energy towers in different parts of San Salvador last night.

Nicaragua

Accord With UN Signed To Create Emergency Fund

PA3011032990 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Nicaragua and the United Nations have signed an agreement to support the creation and implementation of the Emergency Fund For Social Investments [FISE] in Nicaragua. Approximately $491 million will be invested in the first phase of the project. With the signing of this agreement, Nicaraguan President Violeta de Chamorro once again fulfills her 21 November pledges in Juigalpa, where she met with the Region 5 mayors. She also did this with the burial of weapons in that historical place.

The FISE will promote the creation of jobs on a short-term basis—through social and economic structures—and the organization of a social investment system, among other things.

[Begin Chamorro recording, broadcast in progress] ....the emergency social investment fund being signed by the Nicaraguan Government today with the United Nations. I want to emphasize the social importance of these programs in achieving the necessary economic restructuring of Nicaragua. The programs will benefit approximately two million Nicaraguans. [end recording]

The FISE—as the program will be known—will be an autonomous institution.

Government To Grant Cuban Doctors Refugee Status

PA2911154590 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1815 GMT 28 Nov 90

[Text] Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry spokesperson Claudia Paniagua has reported that the Nicaraguan Government will grant refugee status to the Cuban doctors who took asylum in the Costa Rican Embassy in Managua recently. Paniagua said to Radio Nicaragua reporters that the case of Cuban doctors Mario Antonio Reyes Morales and Gilberto Marcelino Perez Franco was about to be solved. She affirmed that the Cubans are to be given guarantees as refugees and will receive the necessary travel documents to go to Costa Rica and be granted political asylum.

Humberto Ortega Justifies Military Budget

PA3011044090 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 18 Nov 90 p 5

[Text] General Humberto Ortega, commander in chief of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS], said yesterday that the EPS will immediately begin a series of civil work projects to support the country's reconstruction.

The projects will include repairing roads in productive sectors, reopening access roads, and expanding farming areas to benefit demobilized members of the National Resistance [RN] and peasants who are currently facing serious land problems.

Gen. Ortega defended the budget assigned to the EPS in the nation's general budget. He said that the funds will basically be used for the maintenance of military facilities, many of which will be turned over to the government for civilian use.

Over the past three years, the Army did not invest any money in the maintenance of its facilities and therefore many of them are in a poor condition. Gen. Ortega also noted the wage problems faced by officers and soldiers, adding that the current average salary of an EPS officer is $170.

Ortega met yesterday with former Costa Rican President Oscar Arias, whom he asked for moral support to obtain

foreign aid to complete the disarmament process. He noted that a total of 45,000 weapons have been recovered from the civilian population, which together with the 20,000 rifles turned over by the RN total more than 60,000 weapons that are now out of circulation.

He admitted, however, that there is still much to be done to achieve total peace in the country, mainly because of the climate of political polarization that still prevails with some groups.

Ortega said that among the Army plans for the next few years is the creation of a Military Academy. He noted that over the past few years, EPS officers received training through scholarships granted by previously socialist countries. As a result of the collapse of socialism, however, the situation has changed and now those countries are asking for up to $4,000 per month for each student, which makes it more reasonable to train them in Nicaragua.

Government Announces Extension of Property Law

PA3011015290 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1330 GMT 27 Nov 90

[Communique issued by the Nicaraguan Government in Managua on 17 November—read by announcer]

[Text] The president of the Republic of Nicaragua informs the Nicaraguan people that the National Assembly of the Republic of Nicaragua, exercising its authority, has ordered the following extension to the law suspending the expiration for the return of land and property.

Article 1: The expiration date for the return of urban real estate property exclusively used for housing purposes, whose current assessed valuation is estimated at less than 5,000 gold cordobas in Managua Municipality and 2,000 gold cordobas in the rest of the country as established in law number 113, dated 9 October 1990, is extended for 30 additional days.

Article 2: This law will go into effect after its publication in any media without adversely affecting its ensuing publication in the official gazeteer.

Board room of the National Assembly, 17 November, 1990

[Signed] Miriam Arguello Morales, president of the National Assembly; Alfredo Cesar Aguirre, secretary of the National Assembly

Therefore, this will be a law of the Republic, and it should be published and enforced.

Managua, 17 November, 1990

[Signed] Violeta Barrios de Chamorro, president of the Republic of Nicaragua

Central Bank Announces Cordoba Devaluation

PA2911132690 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1827 GMT 26 Nov 90

[Text] The Nicaraguan Central Bank announced a new cordoba devaluation on Monday, 26 November. The cordoba was devaluated by 7.5 percent, and the new exchange rate is now 2 million cordobas per dollar. A greater inflation rate is expected in November than in previous months. There was a 30-percent inflation rate in October as a result of the reduction of public expenditures made by the central government as a means to deal with hyperinflation, the most disturbing phenomenon in the Nicaraguan economy. As a result of the new cordoba exchange rate, fuel prices were increased by seven to eight percent, while staples increased by as much as 10 percent.

Panama

Vice President Ford Comments on UN Resolution

PA3011020290 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0039 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Text] Panama City, 29 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Second Panamanian Vice President Guillermo Ford said today that the UN resolution against Iraq "proves that Saddam Husayn is cornered, just as (Manuel Antonio) Noriega was," in reference to the Panamanian "strongman" who was overthrown by U.S. troops on 20 December last year.

"President Husayn is attacking world stability and security," added Ford, who supported the UN ultimatum to Iraq.

The UN Security Council today approved a resolution that authorizes the use of force against Iraq if it does not withdraw from Kuwait before 15 January.

Almost a year ago, U.S. troops invaded Panama to overthrow, arrest, and take Noriega to the United States, where he has two trials pending for his alleged involvement in drug trafficking.

Linares Says Government Has Noriega Recordings

PA2911200990 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1734 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Julio Linares said today that the recordings of Noriega transmitted by the television network CNN, which were banned by a U.S. court, are already in the hands of the Panamanian Government. Here is the report:

[Begin recording] [Linares, laughing] I have it in my pocket.

[Reporter] What are the contents?

[Linares] I will listen to them very carefully. I do not want to be influenced by what newspapers say.

[Reporter] How did you obtain the tapes?

[Linares] That is a state secret.

[Reporter] Some U.S. sectors believe that this is not the best time for Panama to file a suit against Noriega. What is your opinion?

[Linares] There are always different opinions regarding government actions. Some U.S. sectors feel that a lawsuit filed by the Panamanian Government, in which matters related to drug trafficking and money laundering are included, could affect the trial taking place in that country. To my understanding, however—the attorney general could give you further details on this—to avoid this situation the lawsuit filed by Panama was not related to drug trafficking or money laundering, but to other crimes committed by General Noriega.

[Reporter] When will the contents of the tapes be available?

[Linares] I will not make any public statement regarding the contents of the tapes. I am interested, however, in the part concerning Gen. Noriega's conversation with Luis Gomez. As you know, he has taken refuge at the Cuban Embassy, and as such, he is not supposed to speak with or contact by telephone anyone like Gen. Noriega. That is clear. [end recording]

Construction Workers To Support 5 Dec Strike

PA3011014790 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 26 Nov 90 pp 28, B-12

[Communique issued by the Single National Union of Construction and Related Workers (Suntracs) in Panama; date not given]

[Text] Suntracs has analyzed the government's position, which day by day grows more arrogant, repressive, and disrespectful toward workers who have suffered many injustices committed by the government and businessmen both in the past and in the present. These injustices include the reduction of salaries, noncompliance with collective labor agreements and the Labor Code, extension of collective agreements, and Labor Code amendments.

The government has also refused to give satisfactory answers to the workers. Instead it plans to continue dismissing workers, privatize state enterprises, reform the Social Security Organic Law, increase women's retirement age to 60, and make construction workers retire at the age of 65 (in the cemetery).

Therefore, Suntracs expresses its anger and discontent. It urges all workers affiliated to Suntracs and people in general to support the 4 December march and the 5 December strike called by the National Coordinating Board called "For the Right to Life." We must show the current government and businessmen that we workers are firmly united and ready to defend our accomplishments and that we demand answers which will favor the majority of our long-suffering people.

Alleged Contras in Paso Canoa Border Area

PA3011014590 Panama City CRITICA LIBRE in Spanish 26 Nov 90 pp 26, 30

[Report by Luis A. Gaitan]

[Text] A highly reliable source from Costa Rica's Intelligence and Security Directorate (DIS) has told CRITICA LIBRE that an investigation is being conducted on the movement of foreigners in the Paso Canoa border area, where some groups could be trying to destabilize the Panamanian Government. According to our source, these foreigners are presumably Nicaragua's contras, specifically members of the Arde [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance] (Southern Front).

This source also told us that the DIS knows the identity of the group but is not disclosing it so as not to hamper the investigation. Everything seems to indicate, however, that the former contras are being hired as "mercenaries" or "soldiers of fortune." It is not known for sure if the movement of those foreigners is related to the armed groups that have reportedly been sighted in Panama, but the fact remains that groups of foreigners are moving along the border area.

The source added that there are movements and "business" deals involving large caliber weapons, including some shipments of M-14 rifles and a large number of Soviet-made SKS rifles (special for militias and sharpshooters), in addition to a large number of Soviet-made AK-47 rifles. On the Costa Rican side, the Civil Guard has heard reports on purported movements of people but has not yet had any contact with them. Our source explained that a large number of "safehouses" are operating in Costa Rica for Central American rebels. They are controlled by the Costa Rican government and security entities. Some of these places are housing opponents of the Panamanian regime.

Correction to Bar Association Protests Plan

PA2911125290

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Bar Association Plans Protest Against TALM," published in the 29 November issue of the Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 23:

Graf four, first and second sentences, make read: ...advantage of. Even those people investing honest capital are uncomfortable with... (rewording)

Argentina

Judge Cites 'Insufficient' Evidence of Bush Plot

PY2911150490 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1422 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Nov (EFE)—The Argentine judge investigating the terrorist gang headed by a Bolivian citizen told EFE today that there is insufficient evidence to prove the group was planning to assassinate U.S. President George Bush.

La Plata City Federal Judge Alberto Duran did not attach any importance to the report published in the La Plata newspaper DIARIO POPULAR that the gang intended to attack Bush during his upcoming visit to Buenos Aires on 5 December. Court sources opined that the reports on the plot were given to the morning newspaper by security services sources.

Duran confirmed that Bolivian citizen Carlos Anibal Monzon Novena, who is considered to be the head of the gang, was arrested during the investigation.

The judge also denied that plans or documents that would have proven the discovery of a criminal attack against Bush had been confiscated.

DIARIO POPULAR had reported that Bush was to be attacked on 5 December with grenades and antitank rifle grenades fired from carbines near the racetrack in the Buenos Aires District of Palermo.

Rumors Called 'Totally Groundless'

PY2911222090 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2059 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 29 Nov (TELAM)—The excitement over an alleged plot against U.S. President Bush's visit to the country on 5 December lasted only a few hours. At noon the national government and the Buenos Aires provincial government dismissed the media report published today by two newspapers owned by the same firm in La Plata. Officials checked the report and dismissed it as totally groundless.

President Carlos Menem dismissed the rumor as groundless. He jokingly told reporters at mid-morning today that "I only know what I heard on the radio, but I am going to ask for a report as soon as I get to Government House."

Inspector General Osvaldo Somohano, Buenos Aires police chief, first suggested that the report was probably built around the recent arrest of Bolivian terrorist Carlos Anibal Monzon Novena, 41. Somohano dismissed any connection between Monzon's arrest and a plot of the magnitude reported in the rumor.

Jose Maria Diaz Bancalari, Buenos Aires Province minister of government, after saying that he had spoken with Interior Minister Julio Mera Figueroa on the telephone, categorically stated shortly after noon that "the investigation has not produced any evidence whatsoever to support the rumor."

Diaz Bancalari also recalled that Monzon had been linked to subversive groups until he was arrested and put under the jurisdiction of the national executive power from 1977 to 1983. He clarified the situation and noted that "the work of the General Intelligence Directorate of the Buenos Aires Police is praiseworthy; it assures us that the situation in the province is completely under control."

The Bolivian activist was actually arrested over a minor criminal action: an assault on a school in Boca District. The dailies EL DIA and EL POPULAR reported on this event and enhanced the story with information they had in their files.

Interior Minister Julio Mera Figueroa suggested that we "not mix things" and pointed out that the arrested activist "reportedly belongs to the so-called Che Guevara group" that has recently carried out small-scale operations, which "have no connection" with the media report. [passage omitted]

Speaking to the media later, Mera Figueroa noted that "we have to be careful" about spreading rumors on the eve of President Bush's visit. He pointed out that "special security measures" were adopted several weeks ago. [passage omitted]

Menem Terms Report 'Irresponsible'

PY2911225190 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2220 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Nov (TELAM)—President Carlos Menem tonight minimized reports published today in two dailies about an alleged plot against U.S. President George Bush. Menem said that publishing these reports was "irresponsible."

In a statement at the Plaza Hotel at the end of a seminar on "Debureaucratization and Competence in Key Economic Sectors," Menem said: "No group has been arrested. Just one person, a member of the People's Revolutionary Army (ERP), was arrested. Two old hand grenades were seized from this person. Menem added: "This person did not say that he was involved in any attack" against the U.S. President.

Visibly annoyed, President Menem said that the publication of this report "is irresponsible, and it has received a lot of attention. Look, it was reported to the entire world just five days before President Bush's visit to Argentina. This is so tremendously irresponsible that something must be done so that the freedom of the press does not become confused with licentiousness."

Minister To Investigate Origin

PY3011004690 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2306 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 29 Nov (TELAM)—Interior Minister Julio Mera Figueroa reported this evening that he has received orders from President Carlos Menem "to investigate the origin of the information" on an alleged plot against U.S. President George Bush, which Mera Figueroa himself has categorically denied.

Mera Figueroa stated that this false story "has spread because of inaccurate reports that contain some true facts leaked by a state organization, which is an extremely serious matter. Therefore, we are going to investigate the origin of this false information so that the individuals who are responsible may be punished by the law."

At approximately 2100, the interior minister held a news conference in the press room of the Government House.

Further on Alleged Plan

PY3011024090 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0005 GMT 30 Nov 90

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 29 Nov (NA)—This evening Interior Minister Julio Mera Figueroa denied the existence of a plot to assassinate President George Bush and said that the information published today by two dailies was "inaccurate" but with some "true facts." He added that media sectors were "not responsible" for the report.

Mera Figueroa said at a news conference that the government will determine "who was responsible" for disclosing that false information and that this individual, once he has been identified, "will be punished with the full force of the law."

The minister said that the terrorist command uncovered by the Buenos Aires police "did not have the minimum capacity" to stage an attack on Bush. He also confirmed the arrest of Bolivian citizen Carlos Monzon Novena.

The minister made these statements shortly before 2100 at Government House after a lengthy meeting with President Carlos Menem.

Mera Figueroa also spoke on the telephone this afternoon with U.S. Ambassador in Buenos Aires Terence Todman, [Buenos Aires Province] Governor Antonio Cafiero, Jose Maria Diaz Bancalari, [Buenos Aires Province] minister of government, and Judge Alberto Duran, who is investigating the case.

Some 100 national and foreign journalists attended the news conference, during which the minister said that he had received orders from Menem "to investigate the origin of the information, because it spread as the result of some inaccurate information that included some true facts."

He said the information was leaked "by a state organization"—without mentioning which one—and noted that "this is very serious, which is why we are going to investigate the origin of this information so that the person or persons responsible will be punished with the full force of the law."

Mera Figueroa said that "the true part" about the information published today is the arrest of Monzon Novena, "who, in principle, is charged with being a member of a subversive cell or a terrorist group, a fact that has yet to be proved." Mera Figueroa said: "To us he is an arrested citizen accused of a crime. According to our penal system, he is still considered innocent."

Cafiero explained that he was "referring to an individual who was arrested for carrying a forged passport to travel to Chile."

He asserted today that "the chances of a terrorist success and escalation, at least in Buenos Aires Province, are really very small, according to the intelligence information I have at hand."

He added: "Like any other country in the world, Argentina is unable to avoid the presence of these small groups, which lack any possibility of success or expansion in our country, at least in the Buenos Aires Province."

Inspector General Osvaldo Samohano, chief of police for Buenos Aires Province, has confirmed the arrest of "a foreign citizen who is presumably connected with ultra-leftist extremists." He added that a possible assassination attempt against U.S. President George Bush is a "hypothesis." Osvaldo Samohano said: "I cannot deny the fact, because a foreign citizen who is presumably tied to ultra-leftist extremists and who is under investigation has been arrested."

The chief of police for Buenos Aires Province said: "We carried out an exhaustive investigation into this case." He added: "This foreign citizen was arrested on the street as he went from Ezeiza to a nearby location." Samohano reported that explosives and a large quantity of subversive publications were seized, but he declined to supply more details on the case in view of the secrecy imposed on the legal proceedings.

Jose Maria Diaz Bancalari, minister of government for Buenos Aires Province, said that for the time being there is no evidence to indicate the existence of a (?great operation to) assassinate Bush.

La Plata Federal Judge Alberto Duran agreed with Diaz Bancalari, saying that "legally speaking, (?there is no) evidence leading us to believe" that there was a plot to kill the U.S. President.

Osvaldo Pepe, spokesman for Buenos Aires Governor Cafiero, denied that Cafiero had confirmed the existence of a plot to assassinate Bush. He added that the Buenos Aires governor "only reported the arrest of a person with an extensive terrorist record."

Pepe said: "It is not the governor's style to make spectacular statements to the media without first informing the proper institutional channels, which in this case would have been the Interior Ministry and the president." [passage omitted]

Menem Promises To Implement Omnibus Decree

PY2911190190 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0058 GMT 27 Nov 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 26 Nov (TELAM)—This evening President Carlos Menem reiterated that "he will continue to implement the planned policy" and that this policy "will eradicate the corruption that began in the country a long time ago."

President Menem spoke at the Alzaga Unzue Hotel complex after attending the dedication of the first phase of construction of an international hotel at 1400 Cerrito Street, in the heart of downtown Buenos Aires.

Menem said: "We will fulfill what is established in the decree that was signed today," adding that "its implementation will take place over three years to reduce as much as possible the traumatic effects". Menem also emphasized: "I believe that this decree marks the beginning of the state modernization process."

He continued: "The process includes a small but strong state that is less tense but has an acceptable dose of honesty to wipe out corruption that has existed for years in the Argentine Republic, a state that can serve the peoples' interests and not one that takes advantage of the peoples' interests."

Referring to comments by Supreme Court Justice Rodolfo Arran that some judges contribute to corruption, Menem answered: "I fully agree with him."

He said: "Investigations are under way. I have already ordered the establishment of a commission that will within 30 days inform me of the lawsuits filed against the state. As soon as we know what they add up to we will adopt the appropriate measures."

The president emphasized: "We are going to be firm, very firm," and "it does not matter how many heads roll because there are thousands of millions of dollars involved that could have been used to prevent Argentina from reaching this situation of collapse and backwardness.

Asked about former president Raul Alfonsin's criticism of his government, Menem said: "I do not care what Alfonsin has to say", adding, "he is incapable as a politician."

Social Action Minister Alberto Kohan and U.S. Ambassador Terence Todman, among others, attended the inauguration of the first phase of construction of the hotel complex.

* Erman Gonzalez Reinstates Advisory Group

91SM0090B Buenos Aires SOMOS in Spanish 17 Oct 90 pp 52-53

[Report by Andres R. Alcaraz]

[Text] The economic plan has entered the danger zone, but Antonio Erman Gonzalez now knows that no matter how much control he has of the many variables that could jolt the National Treasury, he will no longer be able to weather the storm. The reestablishment of Convivencia [Coexistence], officially the Consulting Council, for the obvious purpose of supporting the minister and his plan, is perhaps the last move to prevent the "big jolt" (second half of November and first half of December) from rocking the economic model and, at the same time, Erman himself.

Behind-the-Scenes Argentina

The specter of monetary creation is blackening the anti-inflation horizon. The simple reason is that once the operating surplus vanished in September when tax revenues collapsed, and as soon as the funds flowing into the Treasury from privatizations slow down shortly before Christmas, the payments of Bonex and Bocrex [foreign bonds] and the disbursements to international organizations, all of which cannot be deferred, will have to be made in dollars purchased with australes printed by the inflation "machine."

It was a very well-kept secret. Although Convivencia II posed for official photographs on Wednesday the 10th, it was organized during the first two weeks of September, after the first version of the group got left behind. At that point the administration's operators began consulting all of the people who were later invited, employing three arguments: 1) Is there support for the plan? (There was); 2) The meetings would be held to discuss macroeconomics but not sectorial predicaments; 3) There was a warning about "how risky it is not to support" the program, owing to the alternative policies that are being developed in an effort to suppress economic liberties. Direct, periodic access to the minister, perhaps once a week, was offered.

Erman's trip to the United States necessitated a delay in the inaugural meeting. There is a major, significant difference between Convivencia I and II. The first version did not plan to discuss the economy, although one of its members, Jorge Born, did, which eventually put an end to the group itself but not its purposes. The new model, unlike the old, was called together by the minister to take the plunge quickly but "with prudence."

While the Economy Ministry was discreetly extending feelers in September, one of the parties to the agreement, Gilberto Montagna, upset the applecart. Executives of the UIA [Argentine Industrial Union] told SOMOS that the union's president submitted his proposal personally on 21 September at the extremely exclusive Siglo XXI

Club, which is run by Avelino Porto, during a meeting at which Guillermo Alchouron is said to have denounced it harshly.

On the Tuesday after that rainy day Montagna reportedly presented his idea to the UIA, which endorsed it with the silent consent of the delegates from several large industrial groups (the suspicion is that their consent had been agreed upon long before 21 September). On Friday the 28th a four-page condensed version of the proposal, which SOMOS has seen, was sent to the affiliated chambers.

The "Paper"

The group admits in the proposal that it is obsessed with bringing lagging prices up to date, "especially the exchange rate" (which is causing exporters to lose sleep). The "nitty-gritty" for the Economy Ministry, however, is to be found in the final paragraph. The proposal, which is "based on an incomes policy that will accompany fiscal austerity," aims at de-indexing and, at the same time, reviving the economy." In other words, a return to controls but without making them public, which the Austral and Primavera plans had candidly done.

"I'm going to the Consulting Council" (on Wednesday the 17th), Montagna told SOMOS, "but when they invited me, I made it clear that it shouldn't be too much of a hodgepodge, mixing institutions with individuals." He will put his proposal, on behalf of the UIA, before Erman at a private meeting that has already been arranged.

An alternative plan with a wage-price freeze? Montagna told SOMOS no. Other UIA sources said yes (Mexican-style pact), and what is more, one of the key measures would be to hike the VAT to 18 percent and, at the same time, abolish the tax component of public-service charges and move towards a tax reform that will drastically cut the number of levies on production and consumption. If a consensus can be built, the plan ought to be implemented in December (presumably when the current model falls apart) with another economic team.

The other faction of the business community feels very differently. One of the "heavyweights" on the Consulting Council told SOMOS: "A hodgepodge was what Iconicoff had" (in the sector pact). An Economy Ministry official made this remark to SOMOS about the revival of Convivencia: "No consensus-building, prearranged plans, or secret truces. The only precondition is support for the plan, but watch out! We don't like parallel speeches." An ill-fated message for Montagna and other rebels: Whoever "drops out" will be branded a "destabilizer" of the plan.

Six Months

Businessmen supporters and the Ministry of Economy are, however, slowly cooking up an ultraconfidential plan that takes after the Mexican pact while persevering in a free market.

While the Ministry of Economy, food producers, and supermarket owners (this is why Alberto Alvarez Gaiani and Ovidio Bolo were invited into Convivencia II) explore a way to offset automatically higher prices because of a slow rise in the dollar, on Friday the 12th the Central Bank consulted with eight macroeconomists on the impact of a moderate infusion of australes to up the exchange rate of the greenback (seven of them reportedly predicted an immediate jump in prices).

There are two odd points of agreement between the two factions. The Ministry of Economy wants to prevent the decline in dollars sold by exporters (including plant closures) from deepening the recession to an intolerable extent in December and from having this happen along with the printing of money to meet domestic and foreign commitments, thus unleashing another wave of inflation. The six months that Erman needs will also be used, among other things, to put together a tax reform, with fewer taxes, and at the same time to combat evasion harshly, Mexican- or Spanish-style.

[Box, p 53]

Trade Union Doubts

"I don't think that consensus-building should run its course with the arrangement that this hodgepodge seems to have proposed so far. Joint proposals for recovery ought to be discussed; they shouldn't just get together to say yes to another austerity plan," a skeptical Juan Jose Zanola told SOMOS on the afternoon of Friday the 12th.

As our conversation began, the secretary general of the bank workers felt that he had to clarify that he had not attended the first meeting of the Consulting Council called by Erman Gonzalez. "Lescano wasn't there either," he remarked. He did not attend because of his doubts about the implementation of the project. As for the future, he expects to meet with Diego Ibanez, Oscar Lescano, and Armando Cavalieri (the only one who was at the gathering) on Monday and Tuesday to consider sitting down at the table on the fifth floor of the Economy Ministry on Wednesday the 17th.

From organized labor's standpoint, their own internal struggle, combined with that of the employers' ("fiercer than ours," they say), plus the presence "of the same old officials," represents a major question mark about the future of this new attempt at consensus-building.

"How can Ibanez sit down at that table if they grab collective bargaining away from him? Or how can I, when the financial system is leaking all over?" Zanola wondered aloud.

Tired of having to serve as a bridge between austerity plans and his own dissatisfied rank and file, the labor leader asserts that he will have to think long and hard before deciding whether to attend. "And other labor leaders will do likewise," he says.

* UCD To Campaign in Support of Menem

91SM0090A Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 20 Oct 90 p 5

[Text] The policy of alliances that the UCD [Democratic Center Union] will implement next year for the elections of governors and deputies is currently the focus of the classical-liberal party's attention, as its representatives in Buenos Aires will launch a campaign to heighten the citizenry's awareness "by supporting President Menem while keeping a distance from Justicialism."

The campaign will be headed by Deputies Federico Clerici, Francisco Duranona y Vedia, and Federico Zamora, who reportedly got the green light from Alvaro Alsogaray a few days ago. It will later be extended to districts such as Mendoza, where the UCD will ally with the Democratic Party, Cordoba, and Santa Fe.

In this connection Zamora said that "the strategy will be to explain to the public that the UCD gives its unqualified support to President Menem but has differences with the PJ [Justicialist Party], which is still debating whether the policy of privatizations is a good idea."

The launching of the campaign was decided on during a lunch session that the three deputies held some days ago in San Isidro, at which time they reaffirmed Federico Clerici's candidacy for Buenos Aires governor representing the group Argentine Liberal Opening (ALA), which is in the majority in this district.

"Paralyzed"

It was there that Clerici reportedly acknowledged that the UCD "is paralyzed," underscoring that "the only way to guarantee the process undertaken by the president is to have more classical-liberal deputies to end Congress' opposition to the administration's policy," sources in the group confided.

Once the position of the legislators became known, the news spread like wildfire to other districts. In the federal capital, Maria Julia Alsogaray's main stronghold, one of her former right-hand men, Fernando Bustelo, announced that he would ask the party leader for permission to implement the same strategy.

"We must detach ourselves from Justicialism in order to further our goals and express our support for President Menem from a constructive but critical angle," the councilman said, remarking that the PJ "has not yet gotten over long-standing misgivings about the administration's policies."

"Shortly"

According to Zamora, the campaign will extend "shortly" to districts such as Mendoza, Cordoba, and Santa Fe. In the latter province the UCD is in the grip of its most serious crisis since it was founded, inasmuch as the officers of the provincial committee have submitted their resignations and made known their support for Horacio Uzandizaga of the Radical Party because of disagreements with Maria Julia Alsogaray.

The three representatives of the ALA, who are regarded as the forces behind the "takeoff," have privately expressed their concern over recent polls showing that the UCD is emerging as the PJ's main ally and that its constituency is opposed to any sort of alliance with the ruling party.

Opinion polls in hand, the deputies visited Alsogaray in his office on Riobamba and Juncal to tell him of "the urgent need" to launch the public campaign "soon." They commented that the engineer gave the project the "green light."

* Polls Show Higher Approval Ratings for Menem

* Menem, Other Leaders

91SM0089A Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 25 Oct 90 p 8

[Text] President Carlos Menem's popularity is up 20 percent among the people of Buenos Aires. He received an approval rating of 57 percent, just four points below his August mark of 61 percent before the announcement of the "omnibus decree."

The findings are from a poll conducted by the Cesar Mansilla and Associates consulting company during the first week of October.

The chief of state has thus reversed his September drop, when his approval rating fell to 37 percent.

The governor of Cordoba, Eduardo Cesar Angeloz, got an approval rating of 46 percent, down five from the month before.

The Cesar Mansilla and Associates poll was conducted among 300 persons over the age of 18 in 20 neighborhoods in this capital.

Political Figures

Name	Positive Rating	Negative Rating	No Answer
C. Menem	57	39	4
E. Angeloz	46	44	10
A. Alsogaray	33	62	5
L. Zamora	14	80	6
C. Grosso	28	66	6
R. Alfonsin	16	77	7
A. Cafiero	13	78	9
F. Suarez Lastra	22	68	10
E. Gonzalez	47	44	9
M.J. Alsogaray	20	70	10
A. Dalesio de Viola	34	55	11
F. de la Rua	51	39	10
Del Cioppo	18	26	56
O. Cacciatore	24	43	33
E. Vaca	18	50	32

Grosso and the Professions

Buenos Aires Mayor Carlos Grosso still has a predominantly negative image, although he managed to reverse his three month downtrend, inasmuch as in the first week of October he had just a 26 percent approval rating, compared to a 74 percent so-so or disapproval rating. We should remember that Grosso's approval rating was 19 percent in August and 14 percent in September.

Carlos Grosso

The job that Mayor Grosso is doing is	Percent
Very good	3
Good	23
So-so	43
Poor	31
Noresponse	5

As for the image of various professions in this capital, journalists head the list with a positive rating of 48 percent, followed by businessmen (43), churchmen (42), the military (25), politicians (23), and labor officials (12). The negative ratings are greater in every case, especially for politicians and labor officials.

Professions

Profession	Positive Rating	Negative Rating	No Response
Businessmen	43	52	5
Politicians	23	73	4
Labor officials	12	82	6
The military	25	32	43
Churchmen	42	52	6
Journalists	48	50	2

Votes and Trips

Although a very high percentage of people still do not know for whom they are going to vote in the mayor's race (65 percent), the number is down from the first week of September (71 percent).

Although Fernando de la Rua boosted his support to eight percent, Adelina Dalesio de Viola took the lead for the first time.

Future Mayor

Name	Percent
Don't know/no answer	65
A. Dalesio de Viola	9
F. de la Rua	8
C. Grosso	3
O. Frigerio	3
A. Albamonte	2
M.J. Alsogaray	2
E. Vaca	2
O. Cacciatore	2
Others (Casella, Rico, Caputo, Pugliese, etc.)	4
Total	100

Lastly, 65 percent of the Buenos Aires residents polled felt that the president's trip to the United States was positive, while 35 percent felt the opposite.

* Menem's Image, Policies

91SM0089B Buenos Aires SOMOS in Spanish 17 Oct 90 pp 18-19

[Report by Jorge Grecco]

[Text] October seems kinder to President Carlos Menem's image than September. His approval rating rose from 35.8 percent last month to 45 percent this month.

During the same period the administration's rating turned negative, although it did not hit its February low of 41.5 percent, settling at a worrisome 37 percent disapproval level.

The numbers, which are from a poll that Lynch, Menendez, and Nivel Associates conducted in Greater Buenos Aires between 1 and 8 October on a 500-person sample, indicate that the popularity of the Menem administration's economic policy is up slightly but remains negative, as only 19.5 percent of those polled approve of it.

Privatization is a noteworthy issue. In July, 61.8 percent had praise for this policy, whereas in October support was down to 37.3 percent. The Entel [National Telecommunications Enterprise] episode could have had something to do with this striking decline.

The 1991 elections were another topic in the survey. The following were the main findings (comparing July and October):

- There was a sharp drop in the level of indecision: from 79.7 to 56.2 percent.
- There was a significant increase in the numbers of those who said they would vote for the UCR [Radical Civic Union], from a scant 2.9 to 14.4 percent. There were also more Justicialist voters, up from 10.1 to 19.5 percent.
- The UCD [Democratic Center Union] is not doing very well. Even though its support grew (from 2.9 to 4.6 percent), it remains weak. United Left, in contrast, jumped from zero to 3.5 percent.

If we compare voter intentions in 1991 with the 1989 vote, we realize the huge difficulty that political parties are having in retaining the loyalty of their voters. Some 54.5 percent who voted for the UCR do not know whether they would do so again, and the same goes for

63.5 percent who cast ballots for the Justicialist Party (PJ); UCD voters, however, are more loyal, as only 34.6 percent of them are undecided.

Administration Policies

The Lynch, Menendez, and Nivel poll also addressed the popularity of the Menem administration's various policies.

- The economy: A predominantly negative image
- Privatizations: An even score, as 37.3 percent of the responses were favorable while 33 percent were unfavorable.
- Troops in the gulf: The impression is mostly negative; 25.8 percent approved, and 55.3 percent disapproved.

As for the National Congress, the poll shows that its image has deteriorated. Some 49.8 percent had a bad impression of it, while just 8.3 percent thought positively of it.

The respondents' answers can be used to draw up a list of the approval ratings of political figures: Carlos Menem (45 percent), Eduardo Angeloz (40.5), Eduardo Duhalde (33.5), Erman Gonzalez (31), Domingo Cavallo (22), Alvaro Alsogaray (21.3), Maria Julia Alsogaray (18.3), and Raul Alfonsin (17).

If it were a list of disapproval ratings, Maria Julia Alsogaray and her father would head it with 59.3 and 50.5 percent, respectively.

Leaders

The consulting firm Telecom conducted a poll in the Federal Capital and Greater Buenos Aires on 18 and 19 September among 709 persons. The following is an analysis of the main findings:

- The great majority of people (80.1 percent) have a decidedly negative impression of Argentine businessmen ("so-so" plus "poor"). Only 18.6 percent though "very well" or "well" of them.
- Some 84.3 percent of the respondents painted a negative picture of trade union and union-federation leaders. The overall number consists of 65.7 percent who had a "poor" impression of them, plus 18.6 percent who described their impression as "so-so."
- Some 25.9 percent could not describe their impression of the Catholic Church at present. A negative rating outweighed a positive one by 40.1 to 34 percent.
- As for the image of the Armed Forces, opinion is almost evenly divided among those who speak favorably of the military (33.7 percent), those who speak ill of them (33 percent), and those who are undecided (33.3 percent).

Governing by Decree

The Telecom survey included questions about Menem's alleged intention to govern by decree.

Most felt that it "is bad" for the president to govern by decree (46.5 percent. It is noteworthy, however, that 40.7 percent replied that they have formed no opinion about this. Some 12.8 percent said they were in favor of this method.

Those who were in favor of it said they felt this way because of "the inefficiency of Congress" (41.7 percent), "to solve problems more quickly," or "because it's the best way to govern."

In contrast, 38.5 percent of those who said that Menem should not govern by decree "don't know" why they feel this way. Some 21.5 percent felt that he should not do so because "that's what Congress is for," while 24.3 percent said that "it's not democratic."

Bolivia

Army Demands U.S. Compliance With Agreements

PY2911235990 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 17 Nov 90 p 3

[Text] Army Commander General Guido Sandoval has said that the United States has signed a cooperation agreement and must comply with all of its terms.

The military chief pointed out that the U.S. Government assumed the responsibility of cooperating in the antidrug fight and in the military training of Bolivian agents.

Gen. Sandoval referred to the U.S. Government's latest criticism of Bolivia's doubts about the participation of the Army.

He said that it would be ideal if the United States really complied with its promises. He also said that the Army can become involved in the alternative crops plan in the coca-producing regions.

He said that the Armed Forces Civic Action service is ready to help to improve the regions that are deemed "decisive" [algidas] because of drug trafficking.

Army military units have recently conducted some operations typical of the troop-training program that was praised by the U.S. Embassy.

The Army and the U.S. Embassy have asked the president of the Republic to decide when the military tasks in the drug producing and trafficking regions should start.

Gen. Sandoval said that General Lucio Anez, the commander of the Special Antinarcotics Force, has his own reasons for wanting the Army cooperation in fighting this scourge. Gen. Anez has recently said that the participation of the Armed Forces—specially of the Army—is necessary in the antinarcotics fight. "He who commands the Special Force deems it necessary," Gen. Sandoval said before declining to comment further on the issue.

Congress Projects Petition for Impeachment

PY2911155890 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 23 Nov 90 p 1

[Excerpt] Early today Congress rejected a petition for impeachment filed against the president of the Republic. A report by the Constitutional Committee stated that the petition is "inappropriate and illegal." The petition was filed by Deputy Edwin Rodriguez, who initially acted on his own behalf but later won the support of his party, the Nationalist Revolutionary Movement.

The lawmakers, who debated until 0300, reiterated mutual accusations of violation of the Constitution and the laws. At the end of the debate, the vote was as follows: 87 lawmakers supported the Constitutional Committee's opinion, 24 rejected it and demanded impeachment of the president, and three cast blank votes. [passage omitted]

Armed Forces State Position on Conflict of Powers

PY2911161890 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 17 Nov 90 p 3

[Text] General Jorge Moreira, Armed Forces commander in chief, has said that the Armed Forces do not provide guarantees and that if the Supreme Court requires guarantees, it must go to the police. The high-ranking military chief noted that the nation's Armed Forces have specific tasks in accordance with provisions established in the Constitution.

Moreira said a note was sent to Dr. Edgar Oblitas, Supreme Court chief justice, so he can take into account the Armed Forces' position with respect to the ongoing conflict in our country.

The military chief said that, according to Articles 209 and 210 [of the Constitution], the Armed Forces are subordinate to the president of the Republic for technical-operational tasks and to the Defense Ministry for administrative matters.

Moreira said he was optimistic about a solution of the conflict. To this end, he said, it will be necessary to hold an appropriate dialogue to find points of agreement.

COB Leader Discusses Terrorist Commando

PY2911173390 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 2300 GMT 28 Nov 90

[Italicized passages are recorded]

[Excerpts] Bolivian Labor Federation [COB] leader Rufo Rivera said today that the political plan of the COB, which was approved during the eighth National COB Congress in Oruro, coincides with the platform of the Nestor Paz Zamora Commando [name as heard] [CNPZ].

Ever since the start of the violent attacks, first by the Zarate Willka group and then by the CNPZ, workers and many national organizations have asked whether the COB rejects or supports this kind of terrorist action against the physical integrity of the people. This question has been raised just as the COB, within the framework of its political, economic, and social demands, is proposing a policy that ranges from passive resistance to active resistance, and from active resistance to armed subversion. Since this policy has been adopted by the mine workers out of despair, seeking to recover the vanguard position they held for many years, we ask: Does this approach coincide with the actions committed by illegal groups in Bolivia?

To learn the answer to this, we interviewed COB leader Rufo Rivera:

[Rivera] *First, we want to state that the appearance of these revolutionary groups that proclaim social justice and the total independence of our country from U.S. imperialism is not a coincidence. The appearance of these groups results from the submission of our governments, including the current MIR-ADN [Movement of the Revolutionary Left-Nationalist Democratic Alliance] administration, to the mandates and plans of the IMF and U.S. imperialism. Consequently, our country is living through a deep economic and social crisis because a totally arbitrary repressive policy is being applied. Thus we want to state that, within the framework of the resolutions of our eighth National Congress that took place in Oruro, the COB political document is still valid. We have points in common with the CNPZ. We do not support this organization that appeared recently, but their proclamation has points in common with the COB political document.* [passage omitted]

Our political strategy seeks to conduct the workers' struggle toward socialism and toward a fair society without exploiters or the exploited.

We want to say that the Bolivian workers, especially public workers and mine workers, are complying with the first strategic stage that is a policy of resistance—that is, from passive resistance to active resistance. This is why we categorically assert that the government has so far not been able to implement its policy of disbanding the Mining Corporation of Bolivia [Comibol] because of the active resistance of the mine workers who are decidedly defending the Comibol (?as a public company) and protecting their labor sources from privatization and unemployment.

Has the time come for the workers to pass from active resistance to armed subversion?

[Rivera] *Although the conditions do not exist yet, the workers are being prepared because sooner or later the Bolivian people will run out of patience, the same patience with which they had to bear the humiliation inflicted on them by U.S. imperialism through our current governors. So, the time will come when the Bolivian people will explode and demand justice, a true democracy, and freedom and independence in our country.* [passage omitted]

Fujimori Holds News Conference in La Paz

PY2911231390 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Report by Luis Sotomayor from La Paz, Bolivia]

[Excerpts] Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori arrived in La Paz, Bolivia, at 0950 this morning. President Fujimori was received by Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora at El Alto airport, 15 km from the Bolivian Government House. They warmly greeted each other. [passage omitted]

After settling in his suit at the Hotel La Paz, President Fujimori held a news conference for journalists who are covering the fourth meeting of the Andean Presidential Council that will be opened by President Fujimori at 1430 today.

For approximately 40 minutes President Fujimori answered questions posed to him in a very calm manner. He first listed some of the achievements of his government during its first four months in power.

Referring to drug trafficking, Fujimori said that the U.S. aid is not being rejected—quite the contrary—and that a comprehensive socioeconomic solution to the problem is being sought. He also said that he favored a dialogue between the countries directly involved in this problem.

Fujimori also said that a more flexible approach should be granted to the member countries of this integration mechanism [Andean Pact], which are seeking an equitable distribution of investments among the beneficiaries by adopting measures that may result in concrete deeds in the search for a greater opening.

He also said that technological cooperation programs should be implemented at a university level as a tool for development.

Answering a Bolivian journalist on the appearance of terrorist groups in Bolivia, Fujimori said that every possible effort will be made to prevent these antisocial individuals from appearing in other countries, especially in this nation.

At the end of the press conference President Fujimori was applauded by the journalists who attended the event. [passage omitted]

Rally Staged in Potosi Supports Judicial Branch

PY2911173690 La Paz Radio Fides in Spanish 1100 GMT 28 Nov 90

[Text] Workers, teachers, university students, housewives, and members of popular organizations have staged a march to defend democracy. After marching along the usual route, the demonstrators rallied at the 10 November Square, where Facundo Gomez, leader of the Potosi Civic Commission, addressed the crowd.

[Begin Gomez recording, in progress] ...a desire for dialogue shown by the true representatives of the working class, I feel I am a better citizen of Potosi and Bolivia. I want to tell the people of Potosi and Bolivia that the illegal maneuvers by the executive and legislative branches to subdue the judicial branch convey their intention of establishing a disguised dictatorship here.

Those wolves in sheep's clothing will not be able to deceive our people who fought to regain this democracy, which appears to be weak and threatened because we, the freedom fighters, are not taking care of it as we should.

So, here are all of you who participated in this march to reflect on this issue and begin rallying around our institutions. [end recording]

Government Surpasses 1990 Coca Eradication Target

PY3011012590 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 23 Nov 90 p 7

[Text] The Bolivian Government has paid $12 million to coca growers who have voluntarily reduced their production.

This information has been released to PRESENCIA by Under Secretary for Alternative Development Osvaldo Antezana, who said that the funds were provided by the National Treasury.

Antezana reported that up until 22 November, 6,850 hectares of coca plantations have been eradicated this year.

"These figures show that we have surpassed the target that we set for this year. The government expects to compensate for the shortfall in the eradication of coca plantations in 1989," Antezana said.

The under secretary said: "We do not know whether we will be able to compensate for the shortfall because there has been so much rain and we cannot do much work in the fields. On the other hand, the fluctuation in the price of coca has caused a reduction in the number of growers who are interested in voluntarily reducing their plantations because of price increase expectations."

An agreement signed by the United States and Bolivia in 1989 sets down that our country will eradicate 5,000 hectares of coca plantations per year and that, in return, the U.S. Government will grant $18 million for the balance of payments, specifically for paying the credits that the Bolivian Government contracted from foreign sources.

The drop in price of the coca leaf early this year has allowed the government to meet the coca plantation eradication target for 1990.

A 100-pound bale of coca leaves was quoted at five Bolivian pesos in January and February 1990. This price led peasants to join the eradication program.

Since May, however, the price of coca leaves rose again and, according to Antezana, in September a 100-pound bale was quoted at up to 300 Bolivian pesos.

Brazil

Foreign Minister Reports Bush Agenda for Visit

PY2911165290 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1500 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] U.S. President George Bush arrives in Brazil on 3 December for a one-day official visit. A short while ago, Itamaraty released a note on the highlights of the visit.

The agenda is not completely ready; this is why not all appointments have been defined. It is known, however, that the U.S. President will arrive in Brasilia on the morning of 3 December. His first appointment will be a meeting with President Collor at Planalto Palace at 0915. After the meeting he will take part in a solemn session of the National Congress. Then, U.S. Ambassador Richard Melton will give a luncheon for Brazilian and U.S. officials and politicians at the U.S. Embassy. In the afternoon, the U.S. President will work on U.S. matters with his advisers because in the United States, the president does not appoint an acting president when he travels abroad. At night, Brazil will honor the U.S. Government and have a dinner for the visitors at Itamaraty.

[Begin Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek recording] The signing of texts or agreements has not been contemplated, but the presidents will probably sign a joint declaration as is commonly done on such occasions. The visit has great political importance because of our current bilateral relations and U.S. relations with Latin America as a whole. Nonetheless, aspects of Brazilian-U.S. relations that could be improved do not depend on signing documents. The rules that guide our relations are more than satisfactory. All we need is a little more political will on both sides, and I believe this will become manifest during this visit. [end recording]

Rezek Deplores U.S. Congress Resolution on Cuba

PY2911153890 Montevideo LA HORA POPULAR in Spanish 17 Nov 90 p 2

[Text] Yesterday Brazilian Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek deplored a U.S. Congress resolution that seeks to intensify the economic blockade against Cuba.

"Brazil does not consider this type of policy appropriate. In the field of commerce, it is inappropriate to adopt economic sanctions," he said, adding that "political objectives are attained through political persuasion and dialogue."

The U.S. Congress recently approved an amendment which, if approved by President George Bush, will ban trade between overseas branches of U.S. companies and Cuba.

Rezek Urges 'Negotiated Solution' for Gulf

PY2911233090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2300 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Brasilia, 29 Nov (EFE)—Brazilian Foreign Minister Francisco Rezek today advocated a negotiated solution to the Persian Gulf crisis because "it is the lesser of two evils." He added that Brazil will only send forces to the conflict area in response to a specific UN mandate.

Rezek said that "it would be difficult to justify a Brazilian presence" in that area, unlike in the case of the United States, Egypt, or other countries that deployed troops to the Gulf after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Rezek said in a news conference that he does not believe the UN Security Council will have troops under its command. He did say, however, that if this situation was to come about, Brazil would participate in the operation.

Rezek said that a war would have a "tremendous impact" because it would not only destabilize the Gulf area but also produce negative effects in other parts of the world.

Rezek, who insisted that Brazil ended weapons sales to Iraq in 1988, said: "It is unlikely that a military operation would have an explosive effect, but we cannot specify how long an operation would last, either."

Taxes From U.S. Companies Could Be Reduced

PY3011004390 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 28 Nov 90 p 22

[Report by Cristina Chacel]

[Text] Even as the Collor Government desperately struggles to balance its accounts and increase its revenues, it is willing to give up a substantial portion of its tax collection by reducing the current taxation on profits, dividends, and **royalties** [preceding word in English] on the American companies that are operating in our country. Brazil is secretly negotiating a bitaxation [bitributacao] agreement with the United States. Under this agreement, Brazil would give up a revenue known as **tax sparing** [preceding two words in English] by which the country exporting capitals refrains from taxing the activities of its subsidiaries in exchange for a lesser tax burden in the market where they operate, thus encouraging transnational investments.

The agreement, without the tax sparing, means giving up revenues worth dozens of millions of dollars as well as the transfer of some of the money collected by the Brazilian coffers to the U.S. Government through the American companies installed here. Moreover, by giving up this revenue, the country runs the serious risk of losing the other revenues it is already receiving from at least 18 countries with which it keeps such agreements.

In practice, tax sparing represents a subsidy to foreign investments here, granted by their countries of origin. It

is conditioned, however, to the **Most Favored Nation** [three preceding words in English] clause, which is included in most treaties. According to this clause, if Brazil gives up this revenue in favor of another country—as will be the case—other countries automatically can ask for a similar treatment. Thus, the government's policy to attract capitals would collapse because foreign companies would face a greater tax burden and may reassess the advantages of operating here.

Deputy Francisco Dornelles, a former federal revenues secretary and Brazil's greatest authority on this issue, reacted: "If we give up tax sparing with the United States, every other country will ask for a revision of their agreements, and this will be disastrous for Brazil."

Dornelles vowed to promote a resistance movement in the Chamber of Deputies to prevent the approval of the agreement in case it is signed. For years he unsuccessfully pursued a bitaxation agreement with the United States because the tax sparing did not receive approval by the U.S. Senate. Dornelles doubts that the government will now be able to sign an agreement that includes this revenue.

The idea behind the agreements to prevent bitaxation basically involves sharing tax abilities between two countries. In sum, negotiations revolve around the adjustment of percentages between the countries to achieve neutrality, thus encouraging investments in other markets. This only happens when the exporter of capital recognizes the real differences in the case of a developing country—like Brazil—and such exporter of capital gives up the taxation—to which it would be entitled—on the profits, dividends, and royalties of its subsidiaries.

Brazil imposes a 25-percent tax rate on foreign activities here. If it keeps a bitaxation agreement with a given country, Brazil would reduce the tax burden to 15 percent. This is the case of the German, French, and Italian companies that are exempt from payments to the tax collection office in their countries of origin for the profits yielded by their subsidiaries. With Japan, for example, Brazil maintains an excellent agreement: Brazil imposes a 12.5- percent tax on Japanese activities here, and Japan considers a 25-percent tax rate, without collecting the difference from the parent company.

Meanwhile, with the United States and the United Kingdom, Brazil never managed to reach an agreement of this nature—which Brazil has been trying to do since the 1960's—because the tax sparing is considered to be an obstacle. The U.S. Treasury reached agreement with Brazil twice, but the U.S. Senate prevented its enforcement because of the tax sparing. Thus, the American companies pay more taxes in Brazil than the German, Japanese, French, and Italian companies.

About three months ago, when strong rumors in the United States indicated that the bitaxation agreement would finally be signed with Brazil and approved by the U.S. Senate, the American banks suddenly registered high withdrawals by Brazilians. The other side of the coin: The bitaxation agreements in general involve cooperation between the signatories, which could involve a barter deal between the tax collection offices of the two countries in pursuit of tax evaders.

Congressmen-Elect Said To Support Collor

PY3011011790 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Report by Yara Selva]

[Text] Deputy Ricardo Fiuza, the Liberation Front Party leader in the Chamber of Deputies, has reported that the senators and deputies who will be installed in February next year will give the Collor Administration the majority in the National Congress.

Fiuza said this after analyzing the position of the new congressmen and after talking with several governors-elect.

[Begin Fiuza recording] I am absolutely convinced of this because the entire Brazilian society is convincing Congress that they want to see the economic stabilization plan work out and thus give this country the tranquillity we all need. [end recording]

He also said that the establishment of a congressional bloc that will support the government is being studied. Among the alternatives are: a total bloc, a partial bloc, or informal support by the parties.

Collor Reissues Provisional Measure on Salaries

PY2911204790 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 0900 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Excerpts] President Fernando Collor has reissued Provisional Measure Number 256, which deals with salaries. [passage omitted]

This provisional measure establishes free negotiations on salaries, and it was reissued without any modification yesterday evening. The measure was originally issued at the end of July, and it allows employers to increase employees salaries as many times as they like. [passage omitted]

November Inflation Totals 16.64 Percent

PY3011002090 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 2200 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Summary] The Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics reported today that inflation during the month of November totaled 16.64 percent.

Chile

Army Officers Reportedly Ask Pinochet To Resign

PY2911180490 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Santiago—Chilean Army officers have asked for the resignation of General Augusto Pinochet, Army commander in chief and former head of the Chilean military regime, on charges that he committed irregularities as commander in chief.

The charge is included in a letter, which was reportedly sent to Pinochet himself, bearing the signatures of many officers, both retired and on active duty.

Silva Denies U.S. Considers Country 'High-Risk'

PY2911182590 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Enrique Silva Cimma has categorically denied reports that the United States has declared Chile a high-risk country following the bomb attack on Saturday, 17 November, during a baseball game at the national stadium. During that extremist attack one Canadian citizen was killed and two Americans and a U.S. Embassy employee were injured.

Silva Cimma said that he had spoken to U.S. Ambassador Charles Gillespie who said that it is absolutely false that Chile has been declared a high-risk country. He added that some people who apparently did not have their documents ready for traveling were told about the accident in Chile, but there has been no declaration in this regard by the State Department or by any other organization in the United States.

Press reports claim that the alleged declaration of Chile as a high-risk country has prompted the suspension of the trip by some of the best U.S. women volleyball players who were to have participated in an upcoming tournament in Santiago.

Communist Party Wants Bush Visit Rejected

PY2911233390 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] The Communist Party of Chile [PCCh] announced today that Chile's dignity and patriotic interest demand the rejection of the visit by U.S. President George Bush. PCCh Central Committee member Jose Sanfuentes said that as Ronald Reagan's vice president, and as the CIA director, Bush was directly involved in supporting the Chilean military regime.

Sanfuentes also said that the U.S. Government should be expected to fully clarify the poisoned grapes case. Jose Sanfuentes said that the PCCh will carry out peaceful protest demonstrations during President Bush's stay in Chile.

[Begin Sanfuentes recording] We will demonstrate with posters to show Mr. Bush that he is not welcome in our country and to show the world that the Chilean people are an honorable people who will defend their national interests and who oppose the visit of an imperialist to our soil. [end recording]

Sanfuentes said that one of Chile's most important economic problems stem from an unfair system of exchange with the United States. According to Sanfuentes, their insistence on applying the Monroe doctrine continues to be the main cause of backwardness in Third World countries.

Quotes 'Significant' Issues

PY3011010090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2220 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Excerpts] Santiago, 29 Nov (EFE)—The Communist Party of Chile and the Independent Democratic Union (UDI) of the extreme right wing today rejected for different reasons U.S. President George Bush's upcoming visit to Chile. [passage omitted]

UDI Deputy Pablo Longueira today announced that his party will continue to oppose holding a solemn session in Congress to receive President Bush. Longueira asserted that although Chile's return to the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) represents an important step forward, there are other significant issues that still have to be settled. [passage omitted]

Longueira, whose party supported Pinochet's regime, said: "We are still not satisfied with the answers we have received."

The UDI deputy noted that the lifting of the so-called "Kennedy Amendment," which prohibited the sale of weapons to Chile, and the payment of an indemnity for damages caused by the poisoned grapes case, which paralyzed fruit exports to the United States, are still pending. [passage omitted]

President Aylwin Decorates 11 Army Generals

PY2911205990 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] President Patricio Aylwin last night decorated the 11 recently promoted Army generals. The ceremony was held at La Moneda Palace. Present at the ceremony were Army Commander General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte, Defense Minister Patricio Rojas, and War Under Secretary Marcos Sanchez.

Moreover, military sources have reported that Gen. Pinochet met with officers of the Santiago garrison at the main hall of the military academy. More than 1,200 officers reportedly participated in the meeting.

Gen. Pinochet reportedly briefed his subordinates about the organization of the Army command, among other

matters. At the end of the meeting, the officers loudly applauded Pinochet's remarks.

Aylwin Dines With Army High Command

PY2911210590 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Italicized passages are recorded]

[Text] A dinner between President Patricio Aylwin and Army high command members at La Moneda last night has been regarded as a pleasant meeting.

Aylwin awarded the President of the Republic decoration to the recently promoted Army generals. It was the first contact between the president and the new Army high command members.

General Augusto Pinochet, the Army commander in chief, answered questions on whether this meeting signified a change in the relations between the government and the Army.

[Unidentified reporter] *Could we say that the dinner marked the beginning of a new stage in relations between the Army and the government?*

[Pinochet] *No new stage whatsoever, Miss! There have not been any changes. Relations have always been the same, as they should be. Why should we begin a new stage!*

[Reporter] *Did you have a pleasant dinner?*

[Pinochet] *What do you think? Yes!*

Defense Minister Patricio Rojas referred to the same issue.

[Rojas] *I would say that this situation began following the full agreement between the Defense Ministry and the Army commander in chief over the designation of the members of the high command, as we have already reported to the nation. This shows the continuation of the state of good relations that currently exists between the government and the Army, and between civilians and the Armed Forces.*

The journalists also asked the minister about a charge leveled by Carlos Dupre, the vice president of the Chamber of Deputies, over documents that are allegedly circulating among Army officers.

[Rojas] *I can only say that as Defense Minister I neither comment on nor answer question about anonymous reports. Thank you very much.*

Minister Views Bush Visit

PY2911234190 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Minister Secretary General of Government Enrique Correa has said that the poisoned grapes case will not be included in the agenda of the meeting between Chilean President Patricio Aylwin and U.S. President George Bush during the latter's visit to Chile next 6 December. Correa said the poisoned grapes case is being solved by the National Defense Council, which means it will be solved through the courts and not through politics.

Correa also evaluated this week's congressional sessions and said that Congress has been very productive in the past few days.

Asked about the government position regarding the investigation requested by the vice president of the Chamber of Deputies into an anonymous document that gives details of irregular procedures, which is allegedly circulating within the Army, Correa said: We do not give our opinion on anonymous documents.

He thus reiterated the statement made by the defense minister who said that the government cannot respond or investigate such a serious case, which tarnishes the prestige of an institution, based merely on an anonymous document.

Finally, Minister Correa did not want to refer to the arrest in Buenos Aires of Jorge Figueroa Monsalve, who is accused of being one of the leaders of the attack against General Pinochet. He simply said that the investigative service has clarified the situation.

Politician Criticizes 'Aggressive' U.S. Attitude

PY2911143690 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 28 Nov 90

[Text] Felix Viveros, National Renewal Party secretary general, has stated his party's concern about the fact that the U.S. sanctions against Chile were lifted only days before U.S. President Bush's visit to the country. Viveros said: We are concerned because we are made to look like a U.S. colony and because somebody thinks our mood has to be prepared to welcome the U.S. President.

This was the opposition leader's reaction to Chile's reentry into the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences and the eventual lifting of the Kennedy amendment, which has prevented Chile from purchasing weapons in the United States but has also made expansion of our local industry possible. Viveros said: What we are seeing is candy to diminish the effect of what has been a systematic aggressive attitude toward our country.

Cuba's Montane Denies Cuban Isolation

PY2911212190 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1746 GMT 28 Nov 90

[Text] Santiago, 28 Nov (EFE)—Jesus Montane, Fidel Castro's private secretary, said today that Cuba is not isolated and that his country is making serious efforts to face its economic crisis, which has been worsened by the situation in Eastern Europe and in the Soviet Union.

Montane, who heads the Cuban delegation that was invited to the congress of the Chilean Socialist Party that

concluded on 25 November, said in a news conference that it is absurd to talk about isolation when Cuba maintains diplomatic relations with more than 100 countries.

He added that Cuba has diplomatic relations with all Latin American countries except Chile and Paraguay. He also recalled that 146 countries supported Cuba's application to become a member of the UN Security Council.

He admitted that all Cuban communists were surprised and "shocked" by the changes in Eastern Europe that he said is moving toward the restoration of capitalism.

Montane is one of the men closest to Castro, and he pointed out that the international situation is "extremely complicated, difficult, and risky." He said the threat "that the U.S. military may make a grab at us" still prevails.

He said that within that context, and being "only 90 miles from Miami," the multiparty system in Cuba "is a luxury we cannot yet afford." He emphasized, however, that since 1985 Cuba has gone through a process of correction.

He also noted the efforts being made to overcome the economic crisis. He explained that plans are being implemented to develop tourism, that energy is being rationed, and that programs to export biotechnology and pharmaceutical products are being implemented.

Regarding the Latin American situation, Montane said that the spirit of the 1959 Cuban revolution "still prevails for the oppressed Latin American people," but he warned that the Cuban model cannot be exported.

Regarding the resumption of diplomatic relations with Chile, he said that Cuba is willing to resume relations whenever Chile decides to do so.

The Chilean Foreign Ministry has said that Chile will resume diplomatic relations with Cuba, which were broken 17 years ago, when Cuba guarantees that it will not interfere in Chilean internal affairs.

Montane admitted that Cuba supported the armed groups that opposed the military dictatorship of General Augusto Pinochet, but he explained that this support ended with the reestablishment of democracy.

Santiago Garrison Commander Visits Aylwin

PY2911211790 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 28 Nov 90

[Text] Santiago Military Garrison Commander, Brigadier General Guido Riquelme, has paid a protocol visit to President Patricio Aylwin at La Moneda Palace.

Gen. Riquelme later said that they talked about several matters, including some countries he had the opportunity to visit. Gen. Riquelme added that President Aylwin thanked him for the cooperation of the Internal Security Committee. This committee holds its regular meeting on Wednesdays at the [name indistinct] Palace.

Colombia

Battle Reports Published for 22-29 November

PA3011002490

[Editorial Report] Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish on 15 November on page 4b carries a report of a clash on 13 November in Aguas Negras, jurisdiction of La Hormiga (Putumayo) between three members of the Armed Forces and guerrillas. The authorities reported that during the armed contact between Army troops and members of the 32d Front of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), soldiers Carlos Martin Arturo Torres, Mora Manuel Bolanos, and two unidentified guerrillas were killed. Soldiers Wilson Cancua Botina and Demetrio Estrada Camelo were wounded.

Police authorities report on the same page that policeman Fredy Carmona Zuleta was killed and Captain Pedro Hugo Angel Gomez was wounded on the road from Cisneros to Yolombo in Antioquia. Soldiers Carlos Cardenas Norega, Julio Mosquera Paz, William Tovar Valvuena, and Mario Patino Agudelo were reported missing during an attack by the 4th FARC front of a military patrol. During a search and reconnaissance operation in Monteria (Cordoba) Oscar Cogoyo Cuasil, Manuel Marquez Pacheco, Nury del Carmen Carrillo, and Luis Agarin Mercado Gomez—alleged members of the "Asalto Gonzalez" group of the Army of National Liberation (ELN)—were arrested. The authorities seized 12 molotov cocktails, nine-mm cartridges, paint, gasoline, and two boxes of tacks.

Another report on the same page is on a clash between counterguerrilla troops, the Muiscas, and members of the "Jose Manuel Martinez Quiroz" front of the ELN during which alleged guerrilla Jorge Luis Mejia Ospina was killed. The authorities reported that one shotgun and cartridges of various calibers were seized during the operation.

Correction to Guerrillas Offer Cease-Fire

PA2911223890

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Guerillas Offer Cease-Fire, Request Direct Talks" published in the 29 November Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 40:

Column one, paragraph three, make read: [Reyes] The Guerrilla Coordinating... (correcting spelling of name "Reyes")

Paraguay

Foreign Minister Comments on U.S. Sanction

PY2911194590 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 28 Nov 90 p 12

[Text] Spokesmen of the business sector have expressed their regret that the U.S. Government has decided to continue the sanction imposed on Paraguay within the framework of the Generalized System of Preferences. Foreign Minister Alexis Frutos Vaesken minimized this fact by saying that the U.S. decision does not mean that there has been a change in the actions taken by Paraguay in this regard. He said that no resolution has been passed and that, therefore, "there is no negative attitude toward Paraguay."

The U.S. Government has announced that it has lifted the sanction on Chile and an African country, and that Paraguay will have to wait. Regarding the U.S. decision, Frutos Vaesken said that the Chilean case was decided in a hurry because of the upcoming visit to Chile of U.S. President George Bush. He said: "The information I have is that the Paraguayan situation will be resolved before the end of this year. It has not been postponed until March."

Frutos Vaesken also announced that Paraguay will be represented at the upcoming Uruguay Round of the GATT in Brussels. This is the first time Paraguay will attend this meeting. It has been reported that Paraguay will be asked to join the Group of Rio.

Jose Fernandez, president of the Paraguayan-American Chamber of Commerce, said that he had no official information that the U.S. Government has lifted the sanctions on Chile and on an African country, and that it decided to continue the sanction on Paraguay until March when the issue will be discussed again. He indicated that during his stay in the United States, where he attended a special meeting on this issue, he had an opportunity to talk about this with a State Department representative. Fernandez added that the U.S. representative told him that the African country was in a most difficult situation, that Chile had the best possibilities, and that Paraguay was in the middle.

Fernandez said: "We regret that the sanction continues because its lifting is both a political and also an economic need."

Delegation To Attend Round of Talks

PY2911201390 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 29 Nov 90 p 8

[Excerpt] A Paraguayan delegation will attend, as an observer, the final meeting of the Uruguay Round of GATT talks that will be held between 3 and 7 December in Brussels, the seat of the EEC commission.

Foreign Minister Alexis Frutos Vaesken, who yesterday confirmed that Paraguay will attend the meeting, said that "Paraguay is not a GATT member, but it will attend the meeting as an observer and in its capacity as a member [as published] of the Group of Rio."

He added: "The final meeting of the Uruguay Round is very important because of the decisions that will be made concerning tariff policies and because we expect to join the organization in a short time."

The Paraguayan delegation will be headed by Efrain Dario Centurion, the under secretary for international economic relations, who in the next few days will travel to Europe to negotiate on behalf of Fonplata [Financial Fund for the River Plate Basin] and will then travel to Brussels. Centurion is the president of Fonplata. The other members of the Paraguayan delegation are Dido Florentin Bogado and Luis Gonzalez Arias, Paraguayan ambassadors to Belgium and Switzerland, respectively. [passage omitted]

Wanted Chilean Officer Reportedly in Asuncion

PY2911202990 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 28 Nov 90 p 25

[Text] It is believed that a former Chilean Army captain has arrived in our capital and is staying in a hotel on the corner of Azara and Estados Unidos Streets. According to confidential reports the captain may be Juan Rolando Castillo Soto, a former security officer under Augusto Pinochet's regime.

According to our sources, Castillo arrived in Paraguay last Monday, apparently having fled his country after a financial scandal involving some 400 Chilean Army officers, including Patricio Castro.

Castillo has apparently been making secret contacts, hoping to be allowed to reside somewhere in the Paraguayan Chaco region. Great caution is being observed in reporting on this case because the identity of the former Chilean captain has not yet been confirmed. The source added that a request on the former officer's background will be sent to the Chilean Police.

Patricio Castro, another former Chilean military officer, also arrived surreptitiously in our country and was residing in a hotel until reporters found him there. At the request of Chilean officials, Castro was deported and is currently standing trial for embezzlement involving a financial enterprise managed by military officers. At that time the Paraguayan police denied that Castro was in Asuncion until his deportation. The source said that it is speculated that Castillo Soto could well be the other former captain who sought refuge in Paraguay to escape from Chilean justice.

Peru

90 Percent of Workers Reportedly End Strike

PY2911215790 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1959 GMT 27 Nov 90

[Excerpt] Lima, 27 Nov (EFE)—Labor Minister Carlos Torres today reported that more than 90 percent of the 600,000 Peruvian state workers who have been on strike since 15 November have returned to work, although union leaders have refused to declare the strike over.

The labor minister said today that no employee will be dismissed as a result of the strike "because all or almost all employees are working." He added, however, that no payment will be made for days not worked.

He added that there is no need whatsoever to sign any agreement with union leaders for the fulfillment of government concessions, as demanded by the strikers, because "the prime minister's words are sufficient."

Luis Iparraguirre, secretary general of the Intersectorial Confederation of Public Employees (CITE), today said that to suspend the strike, government concessions must be formalized and recorded. [passage omitted]

National Penitentiary Institute Director Replaced

PY2911221390 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 1800 GMT 28 Nov 90

[Excerpt] Justice Minister Augusto Antonioli today disclosed that INPE [National Penitentiary Institute] director Carlos Caparo has been dismissed because he no longer meets the necessary requirements for this post. Antoniolli said that Caparo will be replaced by Miguel Romero Bueno. [passage omitted]

Shining Path Group Kills Three Near Huancayo

PY2911213990 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2321 GMT 28 Nov 90

[Text] Huancayo (Peru), 28 Nov (EFE)—Local police have reported that three people were killed today by members of the "Shining Path" terrorist organization in Viques, 12 km south of Huancayo, the capital of Junin Department. The rebels branded them as "informers."

Two of the victims were identified as peasants Hilario Aylas, 29, and Victor Izarbe, 24. Their throats had been cut. Timoteo Aylas, the father of the former, was shot dead by a bullet to the head and Alberta de Aylas, Hilario Aylas' mother, was seriously injured.

The police indicated that at least 10 armed "Shining Path people" entered the peasants' houses and forced them outside. Aylas' parents tried to defend him.

The source added that the bodies of the two peasants were subsequently left in the main square of Viques. Papers and fliers, on which the word "informers" could be read, were attached to their clothes.

Apparently this "Shining Path" band is part of the same group of the Maoist organization that last Tuesday [27 November] killed an Army corporal during an attack on a police station in Huayucachi, four km from Viques, in the central Peruvian mountain range.

According to reports by a congressional committee that specializes in terrorism, political violence in Peru has caused nearly 20,000 casualties since the "Shining Path" rose up in arms in 1980.

Correction to Banker Discusses Resignation

PY2911232990

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Bank Chairman Discusses Resignation, Policy," published in the 29 November Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 42:

Column one, paragraph one, make processing indicator read: [Text] Central Reserve Bank... (correcting processing indicator)

* Poll Reveals 'Most Powerful' Individuals

91SM0048C Lima DEBATE in Spanish Aug-Oct 90 pp 24-40

[Report by Augusto Alvarez Rodrich and Luis Jaime Cisneros]

[Text] This year, DEBATE presents the Tenth Survey of Power in Peru, conducted during the days following the inauguration of President Alberto Fujimori's administration. The survey maintains the same guidelines used previously. For example, "power" continues to be interpreted as "the capacity to exert significant influence on the course of events in the country," and a select group of 1,000 public opinion leaders were questioned representing "strategic minorities" in the different areas of national activity. The text accompanying the survey was written by Augusto Alvarez Rodrich and Luis Jaime Cisneros.

1. Alberto Fujimori 2. Juan Carlos Hurtado Miller 3. Alan Garcia 4. Fernando Belaunde 5. Abimael Guzman 6. Mario Vargas Llosa 7. Hernando de Soto 8. Jorge Zegarra 9. Augusto Vargas Alzamora 10. Dionisio Romero 11. Maximo San Roman 12. Javier Perez de Cuellar 13. Luis Bedoya 14. Javier Diez Canseco 15. Luis Alberto Sanchez 16. Jorge Camet 17. Victor Polay Campos 18. Jorge Torres Aciego 19. Luis Alva Castro 20. Ricardo Durand, S.J. 21. Fernando Olivera 22. Genaro Delgado Parker 23. Adolfo Alvarado Fournier 24. Valentin Pacho 25. Manuel Moreyra 26. Susana Rujimori 27. Guido Pennano 28. Alejandro Miro Quesada 29. Enrique Bernales 30. Cesar Hildebrandt

The results of DEBATE's Tenth Power Survey reflect significant changes that have occurred on the Peruvian political scene in the past six months and that comprise the current power structure. It is a situation in which the Change '90 Government is beginning its term in office

without any broad power base and in which different sectors of the rest of the political community take on notorious power quotients.

DEBATE's Power Survey has traditionally shown that the president of the republic and the head of the Cabinet occupy the two most important posts. This happened in 1989 with Alan Garcia Perez and the then Prime Minister Luis Alberto Sanchez and has happened again this year with Alberto Fujimori and Juan Carlos Hurtado Miller. However, these are the only two persons directly connected with the Change '90 Government who appear in the top ten positions.

To a certain extent, this reflects the fragile nature of this administration. The perception of those surveyed is that power is shared this time more proportionally with other members of the political scene and without a preponderance of members of the government, as has customarily happened in previous polls. For example, in the 1981 survey, the first four places went to top-ranking members of the government: Fernando Belaunde, Manuel Ulloa, Javier Alva Orlandini, and Alfonso Grados, while the list of the top ten included Violeta Correa, Pedro Pablo Kuczynski, and Luis Bedoya Reyes, whose party, the PPC [Popular Christian Party], had established an alliance with the AP [Popular Action]. Likewise, in the 1985 survey, the first conducted during the administration of President Garcia, the first four places went to Aprist [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] leaders: Alan Garcia Perez, Luis Alberto Sanchez, Luis Alva Castro, and Armando Villanueva, and the fifth to Alfonso Barrantes, who was thought by those surveyed to be quite close to the then Popular president. In 1990, however, President Fujimori's men are conspicuous by their absence among the most powerful.

Third and fourth places in the survey are occupied by two former presidents: Alan Garcia Perez and Fernando Belaunde Terry. On the one hand, Alan Garcia's presence among the top ten is significant when one considers that in the 1985 survey, when Belaunde Terry was preparing to leave office, he dropped to 13th place. That year, those polled perceived that the leader of the AP enjoyed a much more discreet role. Belaunde Terry returned to the list of the top ten in 1987, when his role as one of the three main partners of Fredemo [Democratic Front] restored his stellar role. Even last year, Belaunde was in third place.

The opposite is true of Alan Garcia, whose low profile will certainly not last as long as some believe. In another survey question, Garcia is clearly perceived as the Peruvian with the greatest possibility of replacing Fujimori as president in 1995. No one doubts that he wants to!

As in last year's poll, fifth place goes to Abimael Guzman. The Sendero Luminoso [Shining Path—SL] leader thereby confirms the perception of those polled that the power to destroy is one of the essential components for understanding Peru's current political configuration. Ever since Guzman joined the list of the most powerful in 1982, he has retained a place among the top ten and since 1987 has not been lower than fifth! The person who has risen considerably in the power poll compared with the previous year is the leader of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA). Victor Polay joined the DEBATE survey in 1989, occupying the 25th position. This year, to a great extent because of the leading role the MRTA acquired with the spectacular escape of several of its leaders—including Polay—from Canto Grande Prison through a tunnel, he now occupies 17th place.

Surprisingly enough, sixth place in the survey this year belongs to Mario Vargas Llosa, who in 1989, when everything seemed to indicate that he would succeed Alan Garcia, came in fourth. Now, despite being practically withdrawn from active politics and even residing abroad after the second ballot in June, Vargas Llosa continues to occupy a post of potential in the power structure. Those surveyed certainly put him in that position because of their perception that Vargas Llosa continues to be a personage whose opinion may be important in the course of events in the country or who might even try for the presidency again. The fact is that after Alan Garcia, Vargas Llosa is considered the person most likely to become president in 1995.

This year seventh place goes to Hernando de Soto. Beyond his previous appearance in the sectorial lists, the president of the ILD [Freedom and Democracy Institute] has never ranked among the top 30 in terms of power. He now rises directly to the group of the ten most powerful. Those surveyed definitely put him there because of his ability to be linked with the previous government as well as the present administration and offer his support through projects connected with the institute he heads.

Eighth, ninth, and tenth places go in that order to Army Commander General Jorge Zegarra, Archbishop Augusto Vargas Alzamora of Lima, and entrepreneur Dionisio Romero. This year's poll shows great symmetry between the general power list and the sectorial list. For example, De Soto, Zegarra, Vargas Alzamora, and Romero respectively occupy first place in the lists of technocrats, military men, religious figures, and businessmen.

The return of a military official such as Zegarra to the top ten—last year the member of the Armed Forces in the best position in the poll was General Artemio Palomino in 11th—reflects the greater degree of notoriety achieved by the Armed Forces due to the rapprochement of President Fujimori. However, one must point out that the general commander of the Army is in a much better position than the minister of defense, General Jorge Torres Aciego, who only recently moved to 18th place. Actually, this should not be surprising since DEBATE's power polls have traditionally situated the commander general higher than the minister of defense. What has certainly happened is that while the minister of defense is perceived by the polls as the president's representative

to the Armed Forces, the commander general of the Army is seen as the latter's representative to the president. The 23d place on the list is now occupied by the current minister of interior, Army General Adolfo Alvarado Fournier.

In addition, Vargas Alzamonra has for the first time joined the list of Peruvians with the most power and does so exactly in the same place obtained by Cardinal Juan Landazuri Ricketts in 1989 and 1988. In 1986 and 1987, Landazuri was in seventh place. The religious official in the next best position is the bishop of Callao and president of the Episcopal Conference, Durand Florez (20th).

Dionisio Romero returns to the list of the ten with the most power after being absent last year (14th). The next highest businessman in the survey is CONFIEP [National Confederation of Private Business] president Jorge Camet, confirming the trend of previous polls in the direction of an institutional solidification which the employers' union has gradually acquired.

In eleventh place is the first vice president of the republic and Senate President Maximo San Roman, the member of the government in the best position after President Fujimori and Prime Minister Hurtado. In addition to the prime minister and the minister of interior, the only other member of the Cabinet included in the power poll this year is Minister of Interior Guido Pennano. For her part, First Lady Susana Fujimori is in 26th place. Last year, Pilar Nores was not included in the top 30.

Another figure who moved up conspicuously in the power poll this year compared with previous years is UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who came in 12th. In 1989, he did not make the top 30, in 1988 came in 28th, in 1987 17th, in 1986 and 1985 18th, in 1984 13th, and in 1983 21st. In other words, in the ten years that DEBATE has conducted its power poll, Perez de Cuellar won his best position in 1990. On the one hand, this reflects the enormous amount of influence Perez de Cuellar seems to enjoy with President Fujimori, understandable in a context in which the government has given priority to Peru's reinsertion in the international financial system. On the other hand, it also reflects the fact that those surveyed view Perez de Cuellar as presidential timber, in fourth place among the "spare" options for 1995. In addition, as in every other year of the power survey, Perez de Cuellar is recognized as the Peruvian with the greatest international prestige.

PPC leader Luis Bedoya Reyes is among those who have lost influence, according to the perception of those surveyed by DEBATE. From occupying eighth place in 1989, when the majority thought that Fredemo would win the elections, he dropped to 13th this year. Actually, all signs seem to indicate that the "expectant" position he took in 1989 was the product of his participastion in Fredemo and that he has now returned to his traditional place. In 1988, Bedoya was in 14th, 12th in 1987, 15th in 1986, and 25th in 1985. Only between 1981 and 1984, when he participated in the government with the AP, was he among the top ten.

However, the sector that lost significant ground this year in the power poll results was the left in all factions. Within this group, former presidential candidate Alfonso Barrantes was hardest hit. The former leader of United Left (IU) made the power survey list in 1982, occupying 24th place, which place he retained the following year. In 1984, Barrantes took an enormous leap in the perception of those polled, occupying 6th place. It was understandable, inasmuch as he had won the office of mayor of Lima and thus become the first socialist elected mayor of a Latin American capital. From that time on, he remained firmly entrenched among the top six, going as high as the extremely important third place in 1986 and 1988. This year, however, confirming voters' opinions, Barrantes has seen better days and has maintained a quasi low profile since his election defeat and does not even figure among the top 30. The fact that the left's defeat in the past elections was resounding is reflected in the absence this year of the other presidential candidate from that sector, Henry Pease (28th in 1989). Another left out is Jorge del Prado, who came in 15th last year.

In contrast, one who did better his position is PUM [Mariateguist Unified Party] leader Javier Diez Canseco, moving up from 18th in 1989 to 14th this year. The next highest leftist politician is labor leader Valentin Pacho (24th), who was not reelected senator, however, which certainly caused him to lose ground compared with last year (16th). Another who dropped in the poll is Senator Enrique Bernales, who fell from 17th in 1989 to 29th.

Other "deflated" politicians are former Vice Presidents Luis Alberto Sanchez and Luis Alva Castro, who now occupy 15th and 19th places respectively, which is understandable because they have left the government. Both are the Apristas in the best position after Alan Garcia. Armando Villanueva is another official no longer on the DEBATE power poll this year.

For the first time this year, Deputy Fernando Olivera (FIM) joins the list of the 30 most powerful figures thanks to his courageous reports, and businessman Genaro Delgado Parker moves up one place compared with last year, now coming in 21st. For his part, Senator Manuel Moreyra (SODE [Solidarity and Democracy]) goes from 30th place in 1989 to 25th this year but his colleague, former Senator Javier Silva Ruete, disappears from the top 30.

Finally, two newsmen complete the list of the 30 most powerful figures in the country: Alejandro Miro Quesada, from EL COMERCIO (28th), and Cesar Hildebrandt, from the television program "In Person" (30th). While the former has been among the 30 most powerful since 1982 (with the exception of 1983), the latter returns to the group after being in 25th place in 1984.

Sectorial Power

The Clergy

1. Augusto Vargas Alzamora 2. Ricardo Durand 3. Gustavo Gutierrez 4. Juan Landazuri 5. Luis Bambaren

This year, Monsignor Augusto Vargas Alzamora is in first place in terms of ecclesiastical power. He replaces Cardinal Juan Landazuri, who, as primate of the Church of Peru and archbishop of Lima, has led his sector since the first power survey in 1981. Vargas also occupies the place the cardinal held among the top 12, coming in 9th. For his part, Landazuri is in fourth place in the sector, despite his retirement from public life. He is an important personage in the eyes of general opinion given the moral weight of his word.

Ricardo Durand Florez, bishop of Callao and currently president of the Episcopal Conference, won second place, as in 1989. Father Gustavo Gutierrez, founder of Liberation Theology, retains third place since the 1989 survey. Finally, the bishop of Chimbote, Luis Bambaren, occupies the final spot in that sector's power, as he did a year ago.

Employers

1. Dionisio Romero 2. Jorge Camet 3. Salvador Majluf 4. Ricardo Vega Llona 5. Juan Francisco Raffo

This year once again, the union vision predominates with respect to the most influential employers in the country. While the man in the lead, Dionisio Romero, is not directly connected with any representative post, his status as pointman has been a constant throughout the past decade. Romero retains that position even though he is no longer president of the Credit Bank. That this in no way affects his power is confirmed by the place Romero wins again this year. With the exception of 1989 and 1986, the Piura employer has always been in the top ten.

Jorge Camet, current CONFIEP president, is in second place among employers and in 16th place on the 30 most powerful list. Union posts are also occupied by Salvador Majluf, currently president of the SNI [National System of Information], and Juan Francisco Raffo, president of the National Association of Exporters.

The case of Ricardo Vega Llona, former CONFIEP president and currently senator for Libertad, confirms the corporative national weight of these entities. His active participation in politics confirms the employers' perception, particularly starting with the thwarted stratification of the banks in 1987, of the need to have their own representatives in the government structure.

Technocrats

1. Hernando de Soto 2. Manuel Moreyra 3. Guido Pennano 4. Richard Webb 5. Fernando Sanchez Albavera

With first place in this sector, Hernando de Soto confirms the seventh place in the top ten of power. There can be no doubt that the influence and importance gradually acquired in official circles by the opinion of the president of the ILD [Freedom and Democracy Institute] over the past five years is associated with his close cooperation with the government. His relationship with Alan Garcia, expressed in several bills, but particularly his connection with Alberto Fujimori, whom he serves as an adviser, clearly portray this influence.

For his part, the influence of Senator Manuel Moreyra is confirmed by his ranking as the second most-powerful technocrat. Likewise, of the five most influential technocrats mentioned by those polls, two are ministers: Minister of Industry Guido Pennano, who confirms the third place obtained in the 1989 sectorial survey, and Minister of Energy and Mining Fernando Sanchez Albavera. The only one of the five who at the time of the survey held no public post whatsoever is independent technocrat Richard Webb. Finally, it should be noted that Felipe Ortiz de Zevallos, president of APOYO, was among the most influential technocrats, but that due to his obvious connection with the publication, he was excluded from the computation of poll results.

Journalists

1. Cesar Hildebrandt 2. Manuel D'Ornellas 3. Enrique Zileri 4. Alejandro Miro Quesada 5. Guillermo Thorndike

The press has always been perceived as a kind of omnipotent power in Peruvian society. It is no accident that it is also known as "the fifth estate." In 1989, according to an APOYO poll, the media were perceived as the most powerful institution in the country after the president and the Church.

The fact that the recent elections brought more than one surprise is reflected in the apparent contradiction between the attitude taken by certain media and the results of the DEBATE power poll this year. Thus it is that Cesar Hildebrandt, director of the television program "In Person," heads the classification of the most powerful journalist for the third consecutive year, followed by Manuel D'Ornellas, editor of the daily newspaper EXPRESO who also repeats his second place of 1989. It is nevertheless a curious fact that they are the editors of the information media who perhaps most clearly bet on the presidential candidate who lost. Despite this fact, in the perception of those polled, they lost no relative power.

Enrique Zileri, editor of CARETAS, comes in third, moving up one place compared with last year's survey, and switching places with Alejandro Miro Quesada, one of the editors of EL COMERCIO. In fifth place is Guillermo Thorndike, editor of the daily PAGINA LIBRE, who was the only newsman in the group who bet on current President Alberto Fujimori, although he is now one of his most visible opponents!

That the press maintains a large influence quotient is proved by the fact that two journalists (Alejandro Miro Quesada and Cesar Hildebrandt) figure among the 30 most powerful figures and that an entrepreneur in communications (such as Genaro Delgado Parker, of Panamerican Television) appears in 22d place on the power list.

The Intellectuals

1. Mario Vargas Llosa 2. Luis Alberto Sanchez 3. Hernando de Soto 4. Pablo Macera 5. Julio Cotler

The intense role played by Mario Vargas Llosa during the past election campaign has heightened the perception that he is the intellectual enjoying the greatest influence in Peruvian society. The 1989 Power Survey also places him in the top spot in the sector. In second place, as last year, is nonagenarian Luis Alberto Sanchez, benefiting from his party position and connection with decision-making under the previous government.

Hernando de Soto comes in third, the only one of the group also on the list of powerful technocrats. Pablo Macera and Julio Cotler complete this classification. They are two thinkers commonly associated with leftist political sectors and their presence confirms the weight and importance of their opinions in society.

The Military

1. Jorge Zegarra 2. Jorge Torres Aciego 3. Luis Cisneros Vizquerra 4. Adolfo Alvarado Fournier 5. Luis Montes Lecaros

Once again, as in the case of the 1989 survey, the list of the most influential men in uniform is headed by the official who holds the post of commander general of the Army, the institution perceived as the most powerful of the three branches of the Armed Forces. In that capacity, General Jorge Zegarra ranks at the top and is also among the most powerful ten, in 8th place. This is mainly due to the likely influence of the Army on President Fujimori.

The following four places are occupied by three higher officers who hold circumstantial posts granting them a significant amount of power. Such is the case of the minister of defense, General Jorge Torres Aciego, second on the sectorial list. General Adolfo Alvarado, minister of interior, comes in fourth, and Admiral Luis Montes Lecaros, chief of the Joint Command of the Armed Forces, completes the list of sectorial power in fifth place, occupying that place more because of the importance of the post held than his personal background.

The only retired general with influence is Luis Cisneros Vizquerra, who owes his third place on the sectorial list (second in the 1989 survey) because of his important place in public opinion, thanks to the topic of terrorism.

Matter of Prestige

Javier Perez de Cuellar, the universal Peruvian who from the General Secretariat of the United Nations stands guard over world peace, continues to be Peru's best source of prestige abroad, followed by Mario Vargas Llosa, whose literary renown has not been affected by his political defeat. Hernando de Soto ranks third this year, after coming in fifth in 1989, which is probably the result of his active participation in the mission accompanying President-elect Fujimori to New York in July. Father Gustavo Gutierrez, with his presence in fourth place, confirms the international importance of Liberation Theology. The list is completed by former President Fernando Belaunde, who drops to fifth place from third last year. Also mentioned were Manuel Ulloa, Alberto Fujimori, Alfredo Bryce, Carlos Rodriguez Pastor, Foreign Minister Luis Marchand, and soccer player Teofilo Cubillas. One noteworthy absence: Alan Garcia.

Foreigners

The election of a president of Japanese origin has had clear repercussions abroad. This consideration must have been in the minds of those polled. The list of the five foreigners with the greatest capacity to influence Peru's political and economic events reflects this. There is more than one surprise.

While President George Bush and Anthony Quainton, Washington's ambassador to Lima, occupy first and third places respectively, American influence is for the first time checked. Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu comes in fourth, to which one must add the sixth place of Japanese Ambassador Masaki Seo, and the eighth place of Emperor Akihito. The perception that the country of the Empire of the Rising Sun will play an important role over the next five years cannot be clearer. Moreover, the presence of Michel Camdessus, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, and the head of the Catholic Church, Pope John Paul II, confirms the weight of these institutions in Peruvian politics. For his part, Mikhail Gorbachev was ousted from the third place he held last year and moved to seventh, a situation closely related to the international perception of the loss of influence of the Soviet model as an alternative for the organization of society.

Pro and Con

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. (Answers in percent)

	Yes	No
1. At the end of his term, the president should be subjected to a residence trial.	81	19
2. The constitution should be amended to prohibit reelection of the president.	52	48
3. Alan Garcia will probably be reelected president in 1995.	75	25

Pro and Con (Continued)

Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. (Answers in percent)

	Yes	No
4. Congress should be unicameral.	56	44
5. Parliament should be replaced one-third at a time.	85	15
6. The government should definitely promote birth control.	79	21
7. There should be a substantial tariff reduction.	81	19
8. The number of ministries should be reduced.	69	31
9. There should be a significant process of reprivatization of government-owned enterprises.	81	19
10. Work on the electric train should be completed.	80	20
11. Amnesty should be granted to terrorists if this will bring about national pacification.	58	42
12. Our country should institute the death penalty for terrorists who commit murder.	50	50
13. Media coverage of information about terrorism should be regulated.	47	53
14. The government should try to initiate a dialogue with subversive groups.	60	40
15. National pacification will be achieved in the five year period from 1990 to 1995.	15	85
16. A subversive movement could achieve victory in Peru.	25	75
17. Poverty, the economic crisis, and social inequality justify subversion in Peru.	35	65
18. Direct military intervention by the United States is acceptable in order to solve the drug trafficking problem.	16	84
19. CONFIEP is well established as a national institution.	74	26
20. Considering the low salaries paid to government employees, payoffs are justifiable.	13	87
21. Starting with the last elections, the Catholic Church has lost some influence over political decisions in the country.	63	37
22. Evangelist churches will influence some decisions made by Alberto Fujimori's government.	59	41
23. The "undecided" [informales] will identify with the government of Alberto Fujimori.	59	41
24. Racism will emerge as one of Peru's main problems in the five year period from 1990 to 1995.	37	63
25. There will be a military coup in Peru within the next five years.	32	68
26. After ten years, democracy has finally been established in Peru.	48	52

Alan Garcia's Worst Defects

1. Authoritarianism 2. Demagogy 3. Arrogance

Alan Garcia's Best Qualities

1. Speaking ability 2. None 3. Charisma

Worst Mistakes Made by Alan Garcia's Government

1. Nationalization of banks 2. Economic policy 3. Financial isolation

Greatest Accomplishments of Alan Garcia's Government

1. Regionalization 2. Respect for freedom of expression 3. None

Best Ministers of Alan Garcia Perez

Despite their participation in the disaster which the Aprista government was, the polls have found that the best ministers between 1985 and 1990 were the following, based on their performance: 1. Abel Salinas 2. Mercedes Cabanillas 3. Manuel Romero Caro 4. Allan Wagner 5. None

It is surprising to note that Salinas, who headed the Ministry of Economy during the difficult September 1988 period, ranked first.

Worst Ministers of Alan Garcia Perez

To be ranked among the worst ministers in an administration such as the totally disastrous Aprista, is definitely an unenviable honor. Those winning it were: 1. Cesar Vasquez Bazan 2. Gustavo Saberbein 3. Remigio Morales Bermudez 4. Agustin Mantilla 5. Luis Alva Castro

Problems Fujimori Must Solve

According to those polled, the main problems to which the government of President Alberto Fujimori must devote its attention are the following, in order of importance:

In your opinion, what are the five main problems that Alberto Fujimori's government must solve? 1 and 2 (tied). Inflation and terrorism, 1,383 3. Corruption, 1,181 4. Unemployment, 977 5. Drug trafficking, 720 6. Malnutrition 7. Education 8. Gap between the rich and the poor

Why Alberto Fujimori Won Presidential Elections

1. Decline of traditional parties and politicians 2. Poor Fredemo campaign 3. Support of APRA, IU, and IS [Socialist Left] 4. Mario Vargas Llosa was a candidate who generated antibodies. 5. Fear of the "shock" treatment

Basis of Success of Fujimori Administration

When those polled were asked to say which factors they thought would determine the success of the Fujimori Administration, the most common answers were: 1. Stabilization of the economy, 1,754 2. Good advisers, 742 3. Achievement of unity, 540 4. Firmness of policies, 494 5. Outside support (credits and investments), 472 6. Defeat of terrorism 7. Elimination of corruption 8. Peru's reinsertion into international finance 9. That he govern with credibility. As one can easily see, these are all reasons that were absent during the administration of Alan Garcia.

Five Individuals With Most Influence on Fujimori's Decisions

1. Juan Carlos Hurtado Miller 2. Susana Higushi 3. Hernando de Soto 4. Rosa Fujimori de Aritomi 5. Maximo San Roman

Will the New Government Be Better Than the Old?: Yes 86%; No 14%

Yes, reason why	Percentage
Nothing could be worse	43
Pragmatic, intelligent, honest	16
There will be unity	13
Has a good team	11
Will stabilize economy	11
No, reason why	**Percentage**
No political or social base	28
Voluble	27
No program	26
No team	12
Corrupt	7

1995 Presidential Hopefuls

This year, DEBATE included a new question in its repertory on the power poll and asked of those surveyed whom they thought had the best chance of replacing Alberto Fujimori in 1995. The list of presidential hopefuls, in order of their ranking, is as follows: 1. Alan Garcia Perez 2. Mario Vargas Llosa 3. Anyone, an unknown 4. Javier Perez de Cuellar 5. Hernando de Soto 6. Juan Carlos Hurtado Miller 7. Fernando Olivera 8. Ricardo Belmont 9. Enrique Bernales. The following were also mentioned, but very few times: Luis Bedoya Reyes, Fernando Belaunde and son Rafael, Senators Alberto Borea and Felipe Osterling, Javier Diez Canseco, Henry Pease, Raul Ferrero, and Lourdes Flores.

* Fujimori's Pardon Decree Provokes Confrontation

* Judicial Process Detailed

91SM0059A Lima CARETAS in Spanish 15 Oct 90 pp 14-15, 85

[Text] The order making it possible to grant a pardon to prisoners awaiting trial has resulted in a confrontation between the Executive Branch and the Judicial Branch and Parliament. President Fujimori's assaults on the two institutions are not helping to solve problems; rather, they are rousing harmful distrust. In the final analysis, it is the prisoners who suffer.

The Judicial Branch is neither judging nor sentencing, merely jailing. This is an incredible fact demonstrated by concrete evidence.

The period of preliminary investigation, set at a maximum of six months, never meets that deadline. In addition to legal delays, red tape, idleness, intermittent strikes, and failure to move prisoners in a timely manner, there is a whole series of illegal postponements. Slowing down the process is a business. One pays to get the proceedings moving.

The actual trial is an aberrant agony. The prisoner goes back and forth between the jail and the courtroom several times a week but never in a steady manner. His hearing can be interrupted for whatever reason and the whole thing has to be started all over again from scratch.

Judges handle several cases a day and it is logical to assume that at some time or other, as in the case of scriptwriter Camacho on Tia Julia, they end up confusing the facts of one case with another and the evidence on Sambo A with that on Mestizo B (because Whites are rarely seen) and give a thrashing to one thinking it is the other!

Delays, difficulties, poor quality of evidence, and jailing for no reason at all mean that in a large percentage of cases, those tried end up with acquittal or a sentence that

sets the time of imprisonment at exactly that already served. In other words, crime is justified however possible and the suspect is freed on the basis that the sentence has already been served.

Thus it is that the Judicial Branch judges or sentences only exceptionally. It is normal for it not to do so or not to do so properly.

Dissenting Opinion

The high order establishing the possibility of a pardon for the accused is an attempt to relieve the overcrowding of prisons resulting from the slowness of the Judicial Branch and an inadequate prison policy.

Most jurists consulted believe the order is unconstitutional and inapplicable. The Senate so deems, as does the Judicial Branch. The main argument is that a pardon cannot be granted to accused persons not yet sentenced.

Jorge Hurtado Pozo, former judge of the Lima Superior Court and now a professor at a German university, disagrees with his colleagues. His arguments are as follows:

It is true that the pardon has always been related to those convicted and not to the accused, but that is an interpretation that is not immutable.

The term "pardon" [indulto] is not defined in the constitution as applying solely to those already sentenced.

One way not to remain caught in a theoretical confrontation is to opt for the interpretation that best fits current needs.

In modern history, a pardon is not precisely a pardon but rather, the correction of a possible injustice. If this is so, then there is no difference between granting a pardon to a defendant or a convicted person.

The evolution of other circumstances has resulted in a narrowing of the sphere of the pardon, but in our environment, based on the slowness of trials, with most defendants under custody in prison and making up 75 to 80 percent of the country's prisoners, is it not suitable to try to broaden the possibility of the pardon rather than to restrict it?

During his controversial visit to Chorrillos Women's Prison, President Fujimori initialed a bill he then passed on to the Senate. The bill modifies certain aspects of the Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure, and the Code of Penal Execution.

Despite his opposition to the presidential order on pardons, Senator Raul Ferrero supports the bill from the Executive Branch. However, those who have stood in its way are, to his great surprise, Change '90 senators who asked—apparently due to a lack of knowledge and experience—for a broadening of the terms and support for the bill.

If that attitude is changed and the bill soon becomes law, we could have a solution to the problem going beyond the mere circumstance of the presidential order.

* Senator Ferrero Comments

91SM0059B Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 8 Oct 90 p 4

[Interview with Liberty movement Senator Raul Ferrero Costa, Judiciary Committee chairman, by Pedro Salinas; place and date not given]

[Text] The new Organic Law Governing the Judicial Branch was promulgated on 26 July, two days before the transfer of power. This law goes into effect on 1 January 1991. However, many lawyers and jurists, including Dr. Diego Garcia Sayan, Dr. Enrique Normand, and Dr. Javier de Belaunde (EXPRESO, 20 August 1990) believe the law will not be a real instrument for reform of the Judicial Branch.

I agree with that opinion. It is a shame that the effort to present a good body of legislation completed by the committee headed by Dr. Alzamora and the committee made up of the Lima Bar Association was not taken advantage of. In the end, a law was passed which, while it does contain some of the points contained in the bills of the Alzamora committee and the Bar committee, introduces a series of modifications in those very points without subjecting them to debate.

Organ of Control

[Salinas] In the case of the draft bill of the so-called Alzamora Committee, the new organic law has not taken up these matters substantively but in form only. The internal organ of control in this draft is not the same as the one established by the new organic law. The problem is that the new law has not introduced major modifications in the existing system which, as we all know, is not functioning.

[Ferrero Costa] The internal organ of control does not function adequately because as it was conceived, there is no way for it to operate. Unfortunately, that organ, far from castigating and punishing bad judges, has become one more administrative organ in which complaints of misbehavior or functional misconduct only go through the channels. However, we never hear about cases in which judges are sanctioned. This has resulted in the discredit of the internal organ of control. It is true that as it is conceived, it is difficult for it to mete out sanctions because it is made up of individuals from the very Judicial Branch, persons who in turn hold judgeships. There is even the reason of professional solidarity.

[Salinas] "Esprit de corps" is stronger than the internal organ of control.

[Ferrero Costa] Esprit de corps, precisely the right word. The Judicial Branch itself does not realize that this is what is hurting it the most. There can be no effective moralization of the Judicial Branch if bad judges are not

sanctioned, and those bad judges who are never sanctioned are precisely the ones who project a negative image of the Branch. They are the ones who have caused discredit to reach unacceptable levels. If there is misconduct, then we must proceed to level sanctions and even remove judges because there are indeed cases that call for removal. It is the lack of punishment which often causes criticisms of the Judicial Branch to be grounded in fact.

Appointments and Confirmations

[Salinas] As for the system of appointments and confirmations, what do you propose?

[Ferrero Costa] There is a basic problem I think it is important to mention. Article 245 of the constitution states that the president appoints judges on the proposal of the National Council of the Magistrature. There is a bill in the Senate that has already received the favorable opinion of the Justice Committee and that establishes that the proposal made by the National Council of the Magistrature to the president should not be by lists. In other words, they should not propose three names from which the president is to choose one. The proposal is that the National Council of the Magistrature, a plural body, make a single nomination of the person best qualified based on a public examination. Then the president, without violating the provisions of the constitution, appoints the judge proposed by the Council. Appointments must be depoliticized. The way to depoliticize them is to give greater autonomy to the National Council of the Magistrature. That Council is made up of the attorney general, two representatives of the Supreme Court, a representative of the Federation of Bar Associations, a representative of the Lima Bar Association, and two representatives of the nation's schools of law. There could conceivably be one more representative but that would require a constitutional modification.

[Salinas] At the round table organized by EXPRESO on the Judicial Branch, it was suggested that channels and mechanisms be established for the participation of public opinion in appointments.

[Ferrero Costa] I think that is feasible. In addition, we should promote a constitutional reform of the system of appointments making it possible, for example, not only to include on the National Council of the Magistrature a representative elected directly, but the direct election of lower judges, direct election not only of justices of the peace who are not lawyers, but of those who are. In the final analysis, we must not forget that the administration of justice emanates from the people. I think there is very little participation by the people. On the level of justices of the peace who are both lawyers and non-lawyers, we could introduce the innovation of having them elected by the citizens and we would probably get better justices of the peace than the ones we now have.

[Salinas] What other kind of constitutional reform should be made in order to reform the Judicial Branch?

[Ferrero Costa] We would have to begin by abiding by the famous two percent budget.

[Salinas] Not even 1.3 percent.

[Ferrero Costa] It normally reaches one percent. This year is the time to see that two percent of the country's budget is indeed allocated to the Judicial Branch. Another point I would like to reiterate is depoliticization of the system of appointments through the proposal made by the National Council of the Magistrature to the president and the direct election of justices of the peace who are lawyers and non-lawyers. Nor do I wish to go so far as the elected courts you see in other countries. The constitution establishes that the power to administer justice emanates from the people. Moreover, one must bear in mind that our constitution did not choose the system of confirmations, meaning the system of periodic evaluations to which all judges would have to be subjected. It is very important to go back to a system of confirmations.

[Salinas] But with the system of confirmations, we lost judges such as Jose Hurtado Pozo....

[Ferrero Costa] Hurtado Pozo, Augusto Mansilla, Cesar Fernandez Arce. Parliament has just done justice to the latter, tardily remedying the error made in 1980, and Dr. Fernandez Arce has just been confirmed. Unfortunately, there are far more complicated cases such as that of Dr. Hurtado Pozo, since he is not in Peru.

[Salinas] He is in Switzerland. Dr. Hurtado Pozo is one of the jurists who has participated actively in reform of the Swiss Penal Code.

[Ferrero Costa] He is a man of very great stature. We hope justice will be done to judges who were unfairly not confirmed. In 1980, injustices were committed, but that does not mean we should not have a system of periodic evaluations. Furthermore, I think this system is not in contradiction with the constitution.

Organic Law

[Salinas] What bill to reform the Judicial Branch now exists?

[Ferrero Costa] We have introduced a bill to waive the new organic law and another providing for the drafting of a new organic bill on the Judicial Branch.

[Salinas] Who would be responsible for drafting this new organic law bill?

[Ferrero Costa] It has not been defined whether it is with powers delegated to the Executive Branch or whether the bill will be drafted directly by the Justice Committee to be submitted to the full Chamber later. The latter proposal is not ideal because while the 60 senators and later the 180 deputies debate the law, we shall continue to operate with an organic law that dates from 1963.

[Salinas] Furthermore, if we take into consideration the low productivity of the Chamber of Deputies....

[Ferrero Costa] Low productivity? Very low productivity. In the Senate, we have already passed many bills that have gone on to the other house and it has not yet even considered them. There is a kind of entrapment that must be resolved very soon.

[Salinas] But it is difficult when the Chamber of Deputies' entire attention is focused on problems such as telephone bugging, which I do not mean are lacking in importance, but in terms of its legislative function, it has not made much progress. Do you not agree?

[Ferrero Costa] That is true. We maintain that a new Organic Law on the Judicial Branch must contain one organ of government which devotes itself exclusively to governing. Hence for two or three years, judges in that organ of government devote themselves solely to administrative and government work and do not engage in the jurisdictional function at the same time. This is one of the errors of the law passed at the last minute by the retiring government. We proposed in the bill that was drafted and debated in the Bar Association that the organ of government be made up of judges from different bodies that engage exclusively in that function.

Decriminalization

[Salinas] Concerning the presidential order on decriminalization No 017-90-SUS, is it constitutional?

[Ferrero Costa] The president has the power to grant pardons. That is constitutional. But he can only pardon those convicted, individuals who have been tried and been given a sentence. That is what pardon is. It means pardoning the sentence. The president has two fundamental powers to that effect. He can grant a pardon, meaning pardoning the sentence. Or he may commute it, exchange one sentence for another, normally lighter based on the conduct of the inmate. The pardon is always personal, given to an individual. On the other hand, Congress has the power to grant amnesty, meaning pardon the punishable act, pardon the crime and the sentence.

[Salinas] What is the precise target of the Senate's amnesty bill?

[Ferrero Costa] The target consists of minor crimes: those which have a sentence of under two years, crimes against holdings, illicit appropriation, the crime of concealment, the crime of culpable bankruptcy and bankruptcy of corporations, also vandalism, fires due to negligence and certain crimes of corruption such as forgery, as well as the sale and publication of obscene pictures. In addition, one has adultery, which should be eliminated from the list of crimes inasmuch as it is a civil problem.

[Salinas] So much for the amnesty bill. Is there another?

[Ferrero Costa] Yes. The other bill has to do with the right of pardon and includes amnesty, pardon, and commutation of the sentence. The bill is an attempt to fill the legal gap in this area. While amnesty does away with penal action and the sentence, pardon only does away with the sentence. Commutation implies the substitution of one sentence for another. Amnesty, reprieve, and commutation of the sentence leave civil reparation alone. Amnesty belongs exclusively to Congress and pardon and commutation of the sentence belong to the president. The commutation of a sentence is individual and comes in response to a request. This bill must be debated in the presence of the minister of justice.

[Salinas] Does this bill contradict DS 017-90-SUS?

[Ferrero Costa] Yes. It is in contradiction with the high presidential order in that the latter spoke of granting reprieves to defendants, persons not yet convicted. Our interpretation is that a pardon can only be granted to persons already convicted, persons whose trials are already over.

[Salinas] And what is your opinion of remarks made by foreign criminal law experts invited by the Andean Committee of Jurists and published in EXPRESO (20 September 1990) which the journal OIGA did not like?

[Ferrero Costa] It is true, as Dr. Baratta said, that unfortunately, only ten percent of those who violate the law and commit crimes are in prison.

[Salinas] So do you find the opinions expressed by those jurists consistent?

[Ferrero Costa] One cannot deny that they are distinguished legal experts. What is questionable is why they would make pronouncements on constitutional issues. They are not experts on constitutional law. Now then, from the standpoint of criminal law, all their observations are very wise and sound.

[Salinas] Do you have any final reflection?

[Ferrero Costa] I wish to reiterate my concern to see the Chamber of Deputies act with the greatest speed on bills submitted to it by the Senate Chamber. There is a series of very important bills that require action and speed. The Penal Code bill, for example, is well along and the Senate passed the delegation of powers to the Executive Branch four weeks ago so that a committee could review it and have it promulgated as soon as possible. The same is true of the Code of Criminal Procedure and the Code of Civil Procedure, which would greatly speed up the handling of legal cases. I would ask the Chamber of Deputies to debate these bills rapidly. The situation in the country is very serious and that in the prisons is pitiful. Prompt, urgent measures must be taken. To do so, we need much more efficient and expeditious work by the two legislative chambers.

[Salinas] Senator Ferrero, when you say the Chamber of Deputies should "act with the greatest speed," did you mean they should "work"?

[Ferrero Costa] I prefer just to say "with the greatest speed."

* Pardon Deemed Admissible

91SM0059C Lima EXPRESO (Sunday Supplement) in Spanish 30 Sep 90 p 7

[Interview with Jose Carlos Ugaz, of the Catholic University Law Faculty, by Carmela D'Brot de Casteneda; place and date not given—first paragraph EXPRESO introduction]

[Text] On the heels of the decriminalization decree announced by President Fujimori, the issue has roused heated debate. Most of those who have held forth on the topic take a position leaning toward conservatism. Others turn their attention to the basic problem: dealing with and resolving the acute prison situation.

Jose Carlos Ugaz, a distinguished young professor of criminal law at Catholic University, lends a coherent, modern focus to an issue which rouses opposition among many politicians, but finds no solution.

[D'Brot] Why is decriminalization necessary?

[Ugaz] Because it is urgently needed due to crowding in the jails, because of the absolutely unmanageable conditions created in the prisons, because of conditions in which over 18,000 human beings are crammed into such detention centers and because in addition, punishing and crowding the prisons does not guarantee the rest of the citizens any peace. It is an illusion to think that because we cram over 18,000 persons into a jail, those of us who remain on the outside have more safety. I therefore believe that anything we do to reduce the margins of the lack of freedom is positive.

[D'Brot] Why pardon persons who have not yet been sentenced?

[Ugaz] It is a question of moving up the sentence because the defendant is already serving a sentence even before he is declared guilty, going against what the constitution orders. In other words, every person is presumed innocent until legally proved guilty. We all enjoy the presumption of innocence until the opposite is demonstrated. I think that is fundamental. In this country, the margin of legal errors and of prolonged detentions is extremely high and then we come to the end and say: "Sir, you are innocent." That is what we are trying to correct.

[D'Brot] But can one legally pardon defendants, those who have not yet legally received any sentence?

[Ugaz] For me, the problem is not legal, but political. Legally speaking, neither the constitution nor the Penal Code, which are the only texts that deal with the topic of pardon, contains any ban on applying the pardon to defendants.

The constitution says the president of the republic has the power to pardon and that is the only exception, that is to say the right to extend pardon, in which the Judicial Branch may be deprived of its exclusive handling of cases.

Article 126 of the Penal Code states that the pardon eliminates repression of the punishable deed, and repression of the punishable deed begins from the time the individual is prosecuted, that is, from the moment he is in jail. Consequently, there is no reason why that person cannot effectively benefit from a measure such as the pardon.

[D'Brot] But politicians, attorneys, and judges say you cannot pardon defendants....

[Ugaz] The reason they have all given is of a mental nature. People refuse to accept that doctrine changes and they cling to what they were taught in the university, that pardon is for those already sentenced.

There is no legal reason for denying that the pardon can be applied to the accused. For me, the problem is political. The opposition is a political opposition because there is a risk that the president may assume specific powers and the pardon for the accused is a good flank from which the opposition can attack the government. It is also a problem of training. People, even those of recognized prestige, basically react according to mental rather than legal frameworks. There is no law prohibiting the pardon from being applied to defendants.

[D'Brot] Many attorneys say the pardon is pardon of the sentence and that if a defendant has still not been sentenced, what sentence can be pardoned?

[Ugaz] According to the Penal Code, the pardon is suspension of the repression of the punishable deed and repression of the punishable deed is not only a conviction. It is also prosecution of the crime. Even if our constitution should say that pardon is pardon of the sentence, one would have to ask: Is it not a sentence to spend several months in jail without any administration of justice? The other argument is the one followed by the Supreme Court of Argentina: When we speak of sentence, we must distinguish the applied sentence, which is the one applied in the sentencing, and the sentence provided, which is the one that contains the norm. In Argentina, they came to the conclusion that one could use the pardon for accused persons because their constitution does say that the pardon suspends the sentence. The reasoning in Argentina was that when they talk of suspending the sentence, they are not referring to the sentence executed, but rather, the sentence provided.

[D'Brot] If thousands of persons presumed to be offenders are released, the number of antisocial acts committed will increase. Who will protect the safety and tranquillity of the citizens?

[Ugaz] It is estimated that only ten percent of all offenders are in jail, meaning that the remaining 90 percent are in the streets! Increasing that figure by three percent will not significantly increase the lack of citizen

safety. What is happening is that the people are terrified because they think that by releasing 3,000 offenders, they will be at their mercy on every street corner, which is not true. First of all, there already are criminals in the streets and in numbers which, if the people knew the real situation, they would not even leave their homes. And yet, they are figures that allow us to live in society.

To argue that decriminalization will mean an alarming increase in crime has no basis in scientific fact, nor is there any evidence in the percentages some claim would result. We are not talking about releasing dangerous criminals, kidnappers, or bank robbers. Consequently, I believe the margin of the lack of citizen safety would not increase over two percent, which is socially irrelevant.

[D'Brot] If they are to be decriminalized, then why even try to punish crime?

[Ugaz] Criminal law is not the only solution to social problems. Criminal Law is the last means to which the government resorts when all other forms of social control have failed: the family, education, psychology, religion, and so on. When all these things fail, then it becomes necessary to have such a drastic measure as depriving an individual of his freedom. What has happened is that in our country, criminal law is not the last resort, but the opposite. It has become the first and only. There are no preliminary instances of control. Here they want to handle everything by putting people in jail. If people do not pay their debts, a criminal report is filed. If the government fails in its economic policies, for example, and generates attitudes of hoarding and speculation, people have to go to jail. Here we try to criminalize everything and put people in jail for the slightest thing and this cannot be. That is why anything resembling a policy of decriminalization is positive. Furthermore, prisons rehabilitate no one and when we send a person to jail, we are sending him to a dungeon where he will suffer from tuberculosis, hunger, humiliation, and every other type of mistreatment.

[D'Brot] If the Executive Branch pardons the accused, does this not affect the autonomy of the Judicial Branch?

[Ugaz] It is fair for the Judicial Branch to demand that its jurisdiction not be invaded, that it be respected as a branch of government, but I also believe that the Judicial Branch has to earn that respect, which has unfortunately not been the case in recent years. It has normally been obedient to the Executive Branch, a branch discredited with the people because of corruption, its dilatoriness, and so on. Consequently, it cannot fairly demand now that people respect it by not taking its functions away when they themselves admit they cannot solve the problem.

[D'Brot] How can decriminalization be achieved successfully?

[Ugaz] Decriminalization is a strategy that must be approached in an integral manner. In order to ensure its success, it must fit into an overall criminal policy of the government. At the present time, no criminal policy exists as such. We let prisoners out of jail one day and by the next we are drafting new laws to make more criminals and putting more people in jail. There has to be an overall plan upon which the government can deal with the problem of crime. Such a criminal policy depends upon a structural reform of all codes. There has to be coordination stemming from the government. Within such a context, the presidential order granting the pardon that has been so controversial is no more than a palliative measure. It is not decriminalization as a strategy and it will not solve the problem of our prisons. It is merely a circumstantial measure that will help alleviate but not solve the problem.

Uruguay

Minister Gros Espiell Praises Nuclear Accord

PY3011002690 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1940 GMT 29 Nov 90

[Text] Montevideo, 29 Nov (AFP-NA)—It was officially reported today that Uruguayan Foreign Minister Hector Gros Espiell has expressed his satisfaction over the agreement on nuclear cooperation for peaceful purposes that was signed by Argentina and Brazil yesterday.

Gros Espiell sent a telegram to counterparts Domingo Cavallo and Francisco Rezek in which he stresses the importance of the agreement. The accord will allow the full participation of the two countries in the Tlatelolco Treaty, which regulates the peaceful use of nuclear energy in the region.

The Argentina-Brazilian agreement establishes a system of safeguards that protects and [words indistinct] in action a control system on the uranium process to prevent its use for other than peaceful purposes.

Attack on Guard 'Still Shrouded in Mystery'

PY2911224190 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 16 Nov 90 p 4

[Excerpts] The attacks on the Coraceros Police Guard headquarters are still shrouded in mystery. Early yesterday morning, the building was shot at for the third time. This time the attackers opened fire from a taxi. Although the authorities believe that they know who the attackers are, so far they did not seem to have taken any measures to prevent further attacks. [passage omitted]

At about 0130 yesterday, several individuals in a speeding taxi opened fire at the sentries on duty on the corner of Valladolid and Eguren Streets. Fortunately, no one was injured.

These three attacks, which have been perpetrated in less than a week, are still a mystery. Those investigating the attacks still have not identified any of the attackers, who must have some reason for perpetrating them.

PIT-CNT Holds Poorly Attended Rally

PY2911221790 Montevideo BUSQUEDA in Spanish 15-21 Nov 90 p 18

[Excerpt] The PIT-CNT [Interunion Workers Assembly-National Convention of Workers] again demonstrated last 13 November that it is unable to recover its ability to draw the people, an ability that was so important in the past.

While a group of people—which never surpassed 1,000—gathered outside the University of the Republic, classes continued as normal inside, a concept that would have been unthinkable in the past. Important trade unions such as the construction workers, metal workers, beverage industry workers, and bank employees were conspicuous by their absence.

During the rally, Communist union leader Oscar Groba read a PIT-CNT document that proposed the government declare "a moratorium on the payment of interests of the foreign debt" and to conduct a national debate on regional integration, "seeking to defend national sovereignty." [passage omitted]

Minister To Visit New Intelligence Directorate

PY2911223190 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 13 Nov 90 p 3

[Text] Today at 1445 National Defense Minister Mariano Brito will visit the Defense Intelligence General Directorate [Direccion General de Informacion de Defensa] which recently became dependent on the Defense Ministry.

This military intelligence service, which in the past depended on the Army, is located on the crossing of Luis Alberto de Herrera and Monte Caceros Streets. The minister will visit the new installations and observe its operations.

Attacks on Police Headquarters, Unit Fail

PY2811130690

[Editorial Report] The 10-November issue of the Montevideo newspaper EL DIA in Spanish carries a 250-word article on page 1 in which it states that at dawn on 9 November three heavily armed men entered into the Coraceros Police Guard headquarters, on the corner of Valladolid and Isabela Streets. They were surprised by a police patrol with whom they immediately engaged in a shoot-out. The three individuals escaped. The police investigating the case think that the attackers intended to steal weapons from the unit's arsenal.

In its 11 November edition, EL DIA carries an 180-word article on page 1 reporting that on the following day, at dawn, the same police unit was again attacked. The criminals were unable to enter, and they escaped through the back of the Blandengues military unit from where they shot at the guards. The article states that no one was injured in the shoot-out and that the attack is being investigated by the police.